

THE JOURNAL

May, October 3, 2003

50 cents (tax included)

Sports Cougars, Gauchos look to bounce back [C1]

Arts Oakland moms turn tales of parenthood into a play [C10]

District can refinance state loan

By Kara Shire

STAFF WRITER

Gov. Gray Davis signed on Friday night legislation allowing the West Contra Costa school district to refinance its \$18.4 million state loan, saving the school district \$6 million over 15 years. The bill, authored by Assemblywoman Lori Hancock, D-Daly City, gives the school district one more chance to take advantage of low interest rates that have homeowners refinancing mortgages in droves.

I am very pleased that Gov. Davis has agreed with us that the

state should not benefit financially on the backs of the district and the children it serves," said Fred Stewart, the state fiscal trustee charged with overseeing West Contra Costa's finances.

The legislation does not take effect immediately, which means the district will have to wait until January to refinance. But school officials still expect the move to save \$409,000 a year for the life of the loan.

For West Contra Costa, a school district that endured \$14 million in painful budget cuts less than six months ago, the extra

money is helpful, though it adds less than 2 percent to the overall budget.

"Now, in what promises to be (another) challenging and tight budget year, we'll do our best to continue to improve student achievement while ensuring that every dollar is spent wisely," said school district Superintendent Gloria Johnston.

Lawmakers gave West Contra Costa a \$29.5 million bailout loan in the early 1990s, when the district's fiscal mismanagement and budget errors landed it on the verge of bankruptcy.

It was the first such loan ever given to a school district and resulted in new legislation aimed at keeping others from the same fate. West Contra Costa has been repaying the loan, plus 5.7 percent interest, in \$1.86 million annual payments for more than a decade. With the interest rate expected to drop to 2.15 percent, those payments will be cut by \$409,000.

The debt is scheduled to be cleared by 2018.

Reach Kara Shire at 510-262-2798 or kshire@cctimes.com.



JOANNA JHANOA/STAFF

EL CERRITO RESIDENT Cynthia Hilton is fighting to keep the neighborhood mail box at Potrero and Liberty streets.

Mail box removals stamped out, for now

■ The postal service has

planned to take away underused mail boxes as a measure against identity theft.

By Mike Adamick

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Cynthia Hilton has learned from friends who have suffered at the hands of identity thieves.

So she's taking steps to safeguard her personal information. Instead of dropping bills in her home's mailbox, where she fears thieves could simply reach in and grab account numbers, she heads to her bulky, blue neighborhood mailbox at the corner of Liberty Street and Potrero Avenue.

It's more secure, she said. And the blue boxes are even recommended by the U.S. Postal Service as a way to protect against mail theft.

So she was upset to discover recently that the mailbox, and several others throughout town, were slated for removal last week.

"The ID theft issue was part of these mailbox removals that made me nuts," said Hilton, a freelance editor.

The boxes were not meeting their quotas of 25 pieces of mail each day and the local post office couldn't afford to keep them out there, said Jack Boster, El Cerrito postmaster.

But after Hilton and at least 10 other people called his office and urged him to keep the boxes, Boster delayed the removal for six months.

The boxes will be tested again over that time to see if they should remain on the streets,

Boster said.

Hilton wants to make sure they stay, saying the removals would inconvenience many throughout the city while opening up residents to the prospect of identity theft.

"I personally know three people who have been victims and for one of them, the only pathway for thieves he could think of was out of his mailbox," Hilton said.

She's heard of several cases where thieves simply strolled through residential areas and picked up mail from house boxes. Without the more secure blue neighborhood boxes, she argues that El Cerrito is opening itself up to thieves.

"I want to reduce the possibility as far as I can of people taking our outgoing bills, ripping them open and getting the check numbers," Hilton said.

Boster argued that the blue boxes are not wholly safe either, saying he has heard of instances in which people have broken in and stolen mail.

And thieves could just as easily steal incoming mail from homes, he said.

"If they want your ID, they're going to get it one way or the other," Boster said.

But even the U.S. Postal Service, on Web site information about identity theft, recommends that residents use the blue boxes as a more secure drop site for sensitive information.

Boster said the only fully secure option would be to drop off the mail at the post office or wait for the local carrier to come to your front door.

That's not always an option

See BOXES, Page A12



CERRITO HIGH SCHOOL parents Chere Beasley, Tonia Cowart, and Mary Coombs talk as they protest outside the school on Friday.

pt. 2. Parents, students and teachers picketed Friday and Monday to voice their dislike of the program cutbacks.

Schools protest; program cuts in limbo

A school board vote reinstated classes through Oct. 31, but their long-term future is murky

By Carrie Ching

CORRESPONDENT

More than a hundred students, teachers and parents picked in front of El Cerrito High school last Friday to protest the

elimination of several under-enrolled classes five weeks into the semester. A second protest echoed the same concerns Monday morning.

"It's the wrong message to give the kids," said Ken Salonen, whose daughter is a freshman at El Cerrito High. "They work hard and then they get cut. Why would they even bother to come to school anymore?"

The district later reinstated classes through Oct. 31, but

teachers and students are still pushing to retain the classes until the end of the semester in January.

Along with other schools in the district, El Cerrito High is feeling the pinch of budget cuts that left the district with \$14 million less in revenue this year.

Eliminating under-enrolled sections was one way the district chose to balance the budget. But students, parents and teachers

want administrators to find alternatives.

"I don't think they're thinking about the students. They're just thinking about the money," said senior Gabby Almeida, 18. "What are we supposed to do?"

Though no classes required for college enrollment were cut, Spanish IV, forensics, yearbook, marching band, choir and one chemistry section were dropped

See LIMBO, Page A11

Week highlights importance of full-time necessity — fire safety

By Mary Reiley

STAFF WRITER

Few of us like to do the more mundane tasks it takes to keep our cars going along smoothly. We procrastinate about balancing the checkbook, making an appointment for our annual checkup or getting cleaning, checking fluid levels in the car or changing the furnace filter.

Firefighters, on the other hand, follow a daily routine, checking fluid, tires, mirrors and brakes on their engines and trucks. They make sure the defibrillator, jaws of life, chainsaws and other saving tools are ready.

To promote emergency preparedness and fire safety in

homes, local fire departments will hold special activities during Fire Prevention Week, Monday through Oct. 11. Observances at the Albany Fire Station, 1000 San Pablo Ave. at Buchanan Street, will include the annual pancake breakfast and open house. Station tours, a live fire demonstration, instruction in the use of fire extinguishers and prize drawings will be from 8 a.m. to noon Oct. 11.

Residents may sign up for first aid and CPR classes and register for smoke detector installation.

The cost of the pancake breakfast is \$5 general, \$3 ages 6-12 and free for children younger than 6.

For information on Albany activities, call 510-528-5770.

Fire Prevention Week at El Cerrito and Kensington stations means visits to local schools and businesses to spread the message of fire safety. Open house will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 11 at El Cerrito Station 71, 10900 San Pablo Ave.; El Cerrito Station 72, 1520 Arlington Blvd.; and Kensington Station 65, 215 Arlington Blvd. Visitors can meet Sparky the Fire Dog or Smokey Bear. Refreshments will be served and visitors may take tours of the stations. Terry the Fire Clown will make balloon animals at Station 71.

El Cerrito or Kensington schools may call 510-215-4450 to arrange a visit from firefighters on an engine or to book a station tour.



GREGORY URQUIAGA/STAFF

ENGINEER BILL DENNEHY wipes down an Albany Fire Department engine after hosing it down during maintenance Sept. 26. Albany and other area fire stations will hold activities next week in observance of Fire Prevention Week and Fire Prevention Month.

INSIDE

More than 'Shhh'

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No bird-brain

■ Zeppelin the African gray parrot has language skills that even awe his owner. Page A3

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NEWS BRIEFS

Alameda County

Food drive marks High Holy Days

Through Yom Kippur, Oct. 6, the Alameda County Community Food Bank is holding a food drive to benefit local food banks. The program started in 1992 at a Berkeley synagogue and now includes the entire Bay Area. The goal is to collect more than 20,000 pounds of food for low-income Alameda County residents — from people of all faiths.

Donations can be dropped off at the food bank warehouse, 700 Murmans St. on the former Oakland Army Base off Maritime Street, between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays. For details, call 510-834-3663 ext. 328, see www.accfb.org or e-mail jgleason@secondharvest.org.

The Alameda County Community Food Bank also seeks volunteers to assist with warehouse and office activities. Weekend and weekday opportunities are available. Individuals, including children ages 10 and older, and groups are welcome. Volunteers are also needed to staff the Hunger Hotline, the toll-free emergency food referral service, from 9 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m. weekdays; bilingual English/Spanish volunteers are especially in demand. For information, call 510-834-3663 or visit www.accfb.org.

Albany

Group shares grace of Mexican folk dance

The beauty and drama of Ensamble Ballet Folklorico de San Francisco come to the Albany Library on Saturday, Oct. 4, at 2 p.m. as part of the library's celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Founded in 1992, the group is committed to the preservation of one of the richest artistic manifestations of tradition and culture in Mexico. The group has performed at such events as the Stern Grove Festival, the "Pajaros de Nieve" festival in Sonora, Mexico, and the International Congress of Women's Health.

The Albany Library, a branch of the Alameda County Library System, is located at 1247 Marin Ave. in Albany and is wheelchair-accessible. For more information, call 510-526-3720.

Position open on waterfront committee

Applicants are being sought for one four-year position on the city's waterfront committee. The committee advises the City Council on issues related to the preservation and enhancement of the Albany waterfront.

People interested should contact the Albany city clerk at 510-528-5720. The council will schedule interviews.

El Cerrito

Democratic Club dinner set for Oct. 18

The El Cerrito Democratic Club's annual dinner in October will have the theme, "Fighting for democracy, not just Democrats." It will take place at 6 p.m. Oct. 18 at Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave., Kensington. Assembly member Lori Hancock and State Sen. Tom Torlakson will provide an update on the recall election.

For information, visit www.ecdclub.org or call 510-527-2194.

League of Women Voters branch renamed

The League of Women Voters — West Contra Costa County is the new chapter name for the League of Women Voters-Richmond Area.

The group has changed its name to better reflect the area it serves, according to a press release. The area served includes Kensington, El Cerrito, Richmond, El Sobrante, San Pablo, Pinole, Hercules and Rodeo.

The League will not meet in October, but its members are encouraged to attend a meeting at Contra Costa College featuring Lori Hancock, Assembly member from the 14th district, at noon Oct. 15 in Room 101 of the Health Sciences Building. Contra Costa College is at 2600 Mission Bell Drive, San Pablo. Call 510-235-7800.

Speaker will offer lesson on wildflowers

The El Cerrito Garden Club will hold its regular meeting at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 9, at the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito.

This month's program features Steve Atwood of the Clyde Robin Seed Co. of Castro Valley, who will speak on "Wildflowers, what they are and how to grow them." He will have seeds for sale following the program. Guests welcome, \$3 at door. For information, call Mae at 510-234-0135.

Program teaches first aid and CPR

The NEAT Program will offer a \$20 first aid and adult CPR class on Saturday, Oct. 25, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Priority is given to El Cerrito and Kensington residents. Space is limited and reservations are required. To reserve, call the El Cerrito-Kensington Fire Department at 510-215-4450.

The Fire Department offers the NEAT Program to promote emergency preparedness and safety for El Cerrito and Kensington. In addition to first aid and CPR, the program also will offer a comprehensive emergency preparedness training course, which is currently being redesigned to be consistent with new federal guidelines relating to homeland security. It is planned that this new course will be offered in 2004.

Kensington

Author to lead writing workshops

Author Teresa LeYung Ryan ("Love Made of Heart") will facilitate a series of writing workshops at Boadicia's Books, 398 Colusa Ave. (at Colusa Circle) from 7 to 9 p.m. Oct. 14, Nov. 11 and Dec. 9 (the second Tuesday of each month).

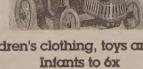
The requested donation is \$5-\$20 per session to benefit Boadicia's (though the organizers say no one will be turned away for lack of funds). For information, call 510-559-9184 or visit www.bookpride.com.

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ALBANY POLICE

Monday, Sept. 22

■ **THEFT** — About 5:30 p.m., thieves stole a wallet from a purse at a business on the 700 block of San Pablo Avenue.

■ **DRUG POSSESSION** — About 8 p.m., officers responded to the 500 block of Adams Street on reports of subjects in a white '98 Honda civic smoking marijuana. Officers detected the odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle and arrested the 26-year-old Pleasant Hill man in the driver's seat. A search of the vehicle revealed marijuana, cash and packaging material. They arrested the man for possession of marijuana and sent him to the Berkeley Jail.

■ **ASSAULT** — About 5:30 p.m., officers responded to the 1000 block of Evelyn Avenue on reports of a family disturbance in the neighborhood. By the time officers arrived the resident had put his stepson under citizen's arrest for hitting him. Officers arrested the boy for assault and released him to his mother.

witnesses.

■ **OUTSTANDING WARRANT** — Officers contacted a subject in a white '98 Volkswagen Scirocco on the 500 block of San Pablo Avenue for suspicious activity. The driver, a 34-year-old Richmond man, was arrested in connection with an outstanding warrant in the amount of \$25,000 for driving without a driver's license. He was transported to the Berkeley Jail.

■ **VANDALS** — Vandals keyed a silver Ford Focus that was parked on the 900 block of Adams Street. There were no witnesses.

■ **VEHICLE RECOVERED** — Fresno police reported locating a black '98 Honda Civic that was stolen from Albany. The steering column had been damaged. The vehicle was towed and the owner notified.

■ **THIEF** — About 6:30 p.m., a subject described as a black male adult, six feet tall, 200 pounds, dark skinned, wearing a silver and gold earring in his left ear, a baseball cap, dark blue shirt and baggy jeans stole electronic items from a business on the 500 block of San Pablo Avenue. He fled on foot and was gone when officers arrived.

■ **BREAK-IN** — Sometime during the night thieves broke into a construction trailer that was parked on the 1300 block of Solano Avenue. There were no witnesses.

■ **LICENSE PLATES STOLEN** — A Richmond woman reported that unknown thieves had stolen both license plates off her burgundy colored '98 Toyota.

Tuesday, Sept. 23

■ **VEHICLE RECOVERED** — Officers located a red '95 Honda Civic on the 700 block of Johnson Street that had been reported stolen from San Pablo Avenue. It was towed.

■ **VEHICLE RECOVERED** — Officers located a black '88 Chevrolet Blazer on the 1000 block of Jackson Street that had been reported as stolen from the 700 block of Gateview two days prior. The owner was notified.

Wednesday, Sept. 24

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night thieves broke into a red '91 Chevrolet pickup parked on the 900 block of Adams Street. There were no

EL CERRITO POLICE

Wednesday, Aug. 27

■ **SHOPLIFTING** — An Oakland man and a Richmond man were detained by Target security when for allegedly attempting to leave the store with \$112 worth of merchandise without paying. They were arrested by police for second-degree burglary, conspiracy probation and parole violations.

■ **DRUG POSSESSION** — A vehicle stopped for having no front plate and a cracked windshield on Peerless Avenue south of Cutting Boulevard also contained a syringe with what appeared to be heroin inside. The passenger of the vehicle, a 38-year-old Richmond man, admitted the syringe and narcotic were his. He was cited and released pending laboratory analysis.

Tuesday, Sept. 2

■ **SHOPLIFTING** — At about 8:40 p.m. officers went to a supermarket to investigate a reported shoplifter in custody. According to an employee,

the subject had taken three bottles of vodka and left the store without paying. When contacted by security outside the store, the suspect began to swing his fists and run away. Officers arrested a 32-year-old Richmond man for strong-armed robbery and possession of a controlled substance and took him to the Martinez jail.

Thursday, Sept. 4

■ **DISTURBANCE** — At about 11:30 a.m. officers were called to a motel regarding a customer who refused to check out. He found a 45-year-old Illinois woman who police said was incoherent and became profane and uncooperative and pushed the officer. She was arrested for battery upon a police officer and transported to the Martinez jail.

Thursday, Sept. 18

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-IN** — Someone smashed the window of a 2001 Honda Accord between 8 and 11 p.m. on Lexington Avenue and ran

sacked the interior; no loss was reported.

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-IN** — Someone shattered the rear camper shell window of a vehicle and removed a weed whacker between Thursday afternoon and Friday morning on Clayton Avenue.

Saturday, Sept. 20

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — An officer stopped a vehicle with no front license plates near the intersection of San Pablo Avenue and Waldo Lane and discovered the rear plate did not match the vehicle it was attached to and furthermore it had been reported stolen. The 18-year-old Oakland man was arrested for possession of stolen property, unlicensed driver and providing false information and taken to the Martinez jail.

Saturday, Sept. 23

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-IN** — At about 9:30 a.m. man and a woman were reported to have gone into the Albert-

son's at El Cerrito Plaza and left 19 cans of infant formula without paying for them. Security guards entered the property and the suspect fled in a gray, four-door '80s Honda Civic.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — At about 11:40 p.m. an officer contacted a year-old Richmond woman driving a car near the intersection of San Pablo Avenue and Conlon Avenue. She belonged to a friend and had been giving her trouble. She asked the officer to check it; during the inspection the officer saw that the car had been hot-wired and requested that the owner be contacted. At the intersection of San Pablo Avenue and Conlon Avenue, the driver advised she had found the car with the engine running and decided to stop. Soon after, the owner confirmed the car had been stolen a short distance away. The driver was arrested for auto theft and possession of methamphetamine and transported to the Martinez jail.

— Staff

Blood donations are urgently needed

The American Red Cross is making an urgent plea for blood donations.

Currently, the Bay Area, and much of the nation, is operating with about one day's supply of blood.

Blood shortages are common during the summer months in part because high schools are out of session, corporations host fewer blood drives and many regular donors go on vacation.

Donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good health.

The American Red Cross Blood Services recommends donors call 800-448-3543 or visit BeADonor.com.

CORRECTIONS

The Journal corrects all significant factual errors that come to the editors' attention. Reporters' and editors' phone numbers are listed on page A2. To report an error, please call the reporter responsible, or the editor at 510-262-2724. Or e-mail: journal@cc-times.com.

LEARN ABOUT PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOLS!

EAST BAY HIGH SCHOOL FAIR

October 14, 7-9 p.m.

Scottish Rite Center

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the second time the children had been on the roof. They were reprimanded and transported to their parents. A few hours later officers responded to reports of more youth on the school roof, but they were gone when officers arrived.

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-IN** — Between 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. thieves broke into a green '98 Subaru Legacy that was parked on the 1300 block of Park Avenue and stole items from it. There were no witnesses.

■ **VEHICLE RECOVERED** — Fresno police reported locating a black '98 Honda Civic that was stolen from Albany. The steering column had been damaged. The vehicle was towed and the owner was notified.

■ **THIEF** — About 6:30 p.m., a subject described as a black male adult, six feet tall, 200 pounds, dark skinned, wearing a silver and gold earring in his left ear, a baseball cap, dark blue shirt and baggy jeans stole electronic items from a business on the 500 block of San Pablo Avenue. He fled on foot and was gone when officers arrived.

■ **BREAK-IN ATTEMPT** — About 7:30 p.m. officers responded to the sauna on the 1000 block of Solano Avenue on the report of a family disturbance in the neighborhood. By the time officers arrived the resident had put his stepson under citizen's arrest for hitting him. Officers arrested the boy for assault and released him to his mother.

■ **OUTSTANDING WARRANT** — A 25-year-old Oakland man came to the Albany police station to pick up his lost license. A check found he had three outstanding warrants and was arrested, cited and released with a notice to appear.

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OTHER DEPARTMENT

Neighbors

Artist's works explore his Haitian heritage

By Zack Rogow

Correspondent

El Cerrito resident Jean Marcel Wah Jr. was not thinking of working as an artist when he ended up for the U.S. armed forces in 1986.

"I was planning for a career in the military," he recalled. While in the Air Force, Wah volunteered to serve as an interpreter for the Haitian boat people who were detained at Guantanamo Naval Base in Cuba, awaiting hearings on their applications for asylum in the United States.

"My family spoke Creole at home when I was a kid in Port-Prince, Haiti," Wah explained. The experience at Guantanamo ended up transforming his politics and his life path. He witnessed firsthand the prejudice that hit home since his family is of African and Asian origin.

"One young Marine said the refugees stank. Another put up a sign that said 'close-out sale' — a warehouse where the Haitians who were being sent were housed," Wah remembered. "It reminded me of very days. I outranked the guy who put up the sign, and I told him to take it down."

Such incidents changed his view of seeing himself and his family. Wah had been brought to the United States from the time he was 11. "It was when I was in Guantanamo that I first thought of myself as Haitian."

The stint working with refugees all reconnected him to early involvement in painting, since the arts and Haitian culture were intimately linked in family.

"In Haiti, my family started in business but soon turned toward the arts. They had the Chinese restaurant in Haiti, that was in my grandfather's view. In my parents' generation, family was part of a revival interest in local language and culture," Wah said.

His father was one of 11 children, and Wah's dad and two of his uncles became artists. "Growing up, it felt like there was a community of Musicians, poets, and artists congregated at our

LEARN MORE

More information about the work of Jean Marcel Wah, Jr. can be found online at www.studiowah.com.

house."

The writers of his parents' generation were the first to publish books in Creole, a mixture of African languages, French and Spanish that is the everyday means of communication in Haiti. Meanwhile, the artists in his family helped introduce fine art the motifs and colors of Haitian primitive painters and of voodoo, the religion of Haiti that derives from West African polytheism.

Wah saw a way to use the visual language that artists in his family had created to depict what he saw in Guantanamo, and many other subjects as well.

He hadn't painted much, though, since he was very young. "I first got interested in painting when I was a Boy Scout in Haiti — I won an art badge!" he said.

After he left the military in 1994, he went on to learn his craft, earning a bachelor's of fine arts in painting from the San Francisco Art Institute and recently completing his master's at the California College of Arts and Crafts.

One highly dramatic painting of his is based on an incident he witnessed in Guantanamo. A group of boat people, whose applications for political refugee status were denied, jumped on top of a container in the warehouse where they were detained and held up a protest banner they'd made.

The banner said in Creole, "Songe Haïtien te ede meyikin batay!", meaning, "Remember that Haitians helped the Americans in their battle!" The message was meant to remind the United States of a forgotten debt — hundreds of Haitians volunteered to fight in the American Revolution and played a key role in winning the Battle of Saranah in 1779.

In Wah's painting of the Guantanamo incident, the banner appears with the writing in blood red. The refugees holding



ARTIST JEAN MARCEL WAH JR. sits next to his painting "Once I Was..." in his El Cerrito home. Wah's works reflect his Haitian roots.

up the sign are portrayed in the powerful and stylized manner of his work, a combination of African masks and dreamlike imagery.

Wah's painting is also heavily influenced by surrealism, the art movement that includes such painters as Salvador Dalí and René Magritte, and draws on dreams and the imagination.

"At times, I find my mind racing a thousand miles per hour," Wah said. "Imaginations, thoughts, feelings all happen simultaneously at magnified level. When I close my eyes for a while, or in the dark, my mind does nothing but wander into all kinds of possibilities."

Many of his paintings include swatches of half-recognizable figures, stirred together in a landscape that recalls the visionary world of dreams.

Wah's paintings have been exhibited in many regions of the United States and in Haiti, and are in a number of private collections.

Wah lives in El Cerrito with his wife, Cheri; their son, Sebastian, age 4; and their daughter, Aminder, age 1½.

"I met Cheri in Guantanamo, where she was working for the Immigration and Naturalization Service as an asylum officer, interviewing applicants who wanted to enter the U.S." She was involved with someone else at the time, but the hurricane of a romance she had with Wah, which began when the two of them met again in Haiti, changed that story.

Wah's hope is one day to carry out his uncle's plan of starting an art school in Haiti to encourage local talent.

"My uncle Bernard Wah was a well-known painter who lived in Queens, New York. He returned to Haiti to start a school," Wah said. "He died at age 41 right after he went back there. Founding the school that he envisioned remains my dream."

Musical parrot has jazz musician beat

MOVE OVER, Charlie Parker. There's a new bird on the block.

Last spring, I wrote about the talented jazz quartet, CJQ, who live next door and entertain me every night with their practice sessions.

The only one who enjoys it more than I do is my cat, Phoebe. As soon as they start playing, she saunters out the door, stretches out on the front stoop, and soaks up every note. And the moment they finish, she comes back in again.

Well, now I have a new neighbor. He's a 14-year-old African gray parrot named Zeppelin, who belongs to Ryan Spallina, one of the people in the house in front of me.

I never knew this before, but African grays are the world's greatest mimics. Zeppelin mimics everything, and I do mean everything. And he does it perfectly after only one hearing.

For instance, he does an impression of Phoebe's meow that fools me every time.

Ryan has two phone lines, one personal and one for business, and Zeppelin does him answering each one:

Business: "Hello. All right. OK. I'll get back to you."

Personal: "Hey, dude! Was-up? How's it goin' OK, cool! See ya!"

In fact, he imitates the rings of all of Ryan's roommates' cell phones. Whenever they hear one go off, they always have to wonder if it's Zeppelin or the real thing. He does power tools, TV shows and fire engines.

"He does the sound of cocktails being mixed," says Ryan.

"He does the sound of the ice cubes hitting the side of the glass and the sound of the liquid being poured on the ice cubes. He also does the sound of my throat swallowing the liquid."

Zeppelin has separate barks for each dog in the neighborhood. He does separate imitations of Ryan's motorcycle, a Ducati 907E, and his roommate's bike, a Honda 900RR. Ryan used to walk around downtown Berkeley with Zeppelin on his shoulder, but he had to give it up when Zeppelin started imitating the "tweet-tweet" sound the cross-



MARTIN SNAPP

Snapp Shots

walk signals make to alert blind pedestrians. "I was afraid it could cause an accident," says Ryan.

Zeppelin used to live in Fresno with Ryan's mother, but he was dying of boredom.

"He really loves my mom, but there were no sounds for him to imitate," says Ryan. "Here in Berkeley, there are thousands."

And one of those sounds is the jazz quartet who live next door. Tom Glass, the bass player, also plays recorder. A few weeks ago, just on a whim, he leaned out the window and played a phrase: "Toodle-oo-oo-oo."

Sure enough, Zeppelin answered, "Toodle-oo-oo-oo."

Tom tried something more complex: "Toodley-oo-oo-oo-oo-oo-oo-oo."

And Zeppelin answered perfectly, "Toodley-oo-oo-oo-oo-oo-oo-oo-oo."

And so on and so on for hours. And they've been at it ever since. Every evening, Tom opens his window, leans out and starts playing, and Zeppelin plays back.

And here's the strange part: About two weeks ago, Zeppelin stopped parroting back what he'd just heard and started improvising phrases on his own. He and Tom are now playing real duets. And their musical dialog is getting more complex all the time.

I am not making this up. Tom is just as amazed as I am. We look at each other, and all we can do is shake our heads and laugh. It feels like the last reel of "Close Encounters of the Third Kind." It's the most moving instance of true inter-species communication I have ever seen.

So next time you're mad at someone, think twice before calling him a birdbrain. It might be a compliment, not an insult.

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-262-2787 or e-mail msnapp@cctimes.com.

In small-town Ashland, the plays are the thing



CLARA-RAE GENSER

Community Folk

IT IS A CLICHE to say that Ashland, Ore., is a lovely town, but, indeed, Ashland is a lovely town. It is small, old and beautified by athora of trees, its homes and buildings are small and well-iced, and physically, it is beautiful.

And the people of Ashland are just as beautiful. You walk along a mixture of artist/players and college students, who all have time and on their minds. Friendly people, all. The tourists are happy to chat and the students are tolerant and friendly to all to ask their advice, or even those who just look confused.

The plays, of course, are the thing. Since my last visit here things have changed and grown, and the Shakespeare plays are only one very lovely part of the productions. We've seen a frothy production "Present Laughter" — very old Coward; an intense and fitting version of "The Piano Son" by August Wilson, and then poor "Richard II."

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towel and flip-flopped out to the pool, only to find that I had to cross a very busy street to get to it. I must have been quite a sight in my suit and towel waiting for the signal to change.

Finally reaching the pool, I happily clambered into it. It was something like descending into a glacier. I think the only time I swam in colder water was in the Merced River in Yosemite. I did swim, but for the next two days I croaked instead of talking.

The theaters here are much better than they were on my last visit. The Angus Bowmer Theater is a wonder, where every seat allows complete viewing, and the sound is clear. A beautiful theater. For Richard we were in the Elizabethan theater, outdoors. Since the evening was warm, a light wrap was all that was needed for complete comfort.

With all our time, we did lit-

tle but eat and wander — and shop. We had a box lunch from one of the many fine cafes, sitting in the park watching the ducks. My friend could identify each kind of duck, and the many mixtures. Listening to their scolding and chatting and watching their antics is a lovely way to spend one's time.

We did take one day to drive to Jacksonville: also a tourist trap, but a nice one. Craft and memorabilia shops are everywhere. We ate at a tea house and drove around to see the lovely old homes among the trees.

I will see you at home again next week. Au revoir.

Do you know people, places or groups in El Cerrito, Albany or Kensington that would make good subjects for this column? If so, please write me at 555 Pierce St., No. 443, Albany, CA 94706 or call 510-525-4585. My e-mail is cruggenser@aol.com.

A WILL OR A TRUST: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE

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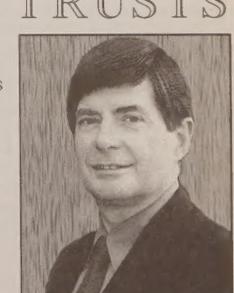
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THE JOURNAL

... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter.

— Thomas Jefferson

EDITORIAL

Recall's good side goes past politics

DEPENDING ON YOUR political stance, the recall is either ridiculous and the worst thing that could happen to California politics, or it is a valid operation of democratic principles according to the state's laws.

But no matter how you feel about the recall, it is important for all registered voters to vote Oct. 7.

If you think the backers of the recall are right, vote "Yes" to recall Gov. Gray Davis and then choose the person from the long list of candidates that you think will do a better job for all of the people of the state.

If you think that the recall proponents are wrong, let them know by voting "No" on recalling the governor. Arguing that millions of dollars are being spent on the election won't affect a basic fact: the election will take place.

And regardless of the result, there are some positive aspects to be considered:

- The actual process of governing the state has been a topic of conversation for months, with more and more people becoming familiar with who does what in Sacramento.

- Voter registration is up across the state, getting more people involved in the process.

- Many more people now know what a recall is and a bit about its history, as well as some state history.

- There are more than 130 people running for the office. Though most of them could not be considered viable candidates, many of them had some good ideas, creative ways to right the ship of state.

- Students, especially the ones in high school, have been receiving a civics lesson unlike any other. And if they registered to vote, the students over 18 will be able to participate in that lesson.

- And more people, especially those who have watched or listened to the debates, are familiar with the Green and Independent parties and the positions of their candidates.

Don't stand on the sidelines — become involved in democracy and vote Oct. 7.

Students at risk

EL CERRITO High School students, parents and teachers went into crisis mode last week when they learned that history, Spanish, chemistry, forensics, choir and marching band were all being dropped halfway through the semester. They were among the 79 courses cut from secondary school schedules by West Contra Costa school district officials.

At El Cerrito, canceling classes halfway through the semester is especially damaging, since the school operates on a schedule that allows students to finish a course in a semester instead of a year. It means half a year's worth of study down the drain, not half a semester's.

Parents and students organized informational picket lines Friday and Monday in front of the school, and went to Wednesday's school board meeting to lobby against the cuts.

After a parent meeting Monday night, Principal Vince Rhea and regional superintendent Howard Cohen went to work to address some of the parents' biggest concerns. The district allowed the principal to reinstate classes until Nov. 1, and make other changes to minimize the damage.

The district's budget shortfall is still a serious situation, and not simple to fix. Parents, students and teachers often say district administrators should take pay cuts to help retain classes. But it's doubtful that, given the numbers involved, anything significant could be saved even if they did take cuts. The problem is bigger than one school district's. Yes, we need to let the district know our views, as clearly as possible — this week's experience showed the effectiveness of community organization — but we also need to look beyond, to the state level and higher, at the kind of leaders we're electing there.

If some voters can make up their minds for or against a candidate based mainly on the candidate's position on birth control or gay rights, surely a much larger number of voters can base their on how seriously a candidate supports public education.

Excellent public education must be a priority at every level of government, or it's not a priority at any of them: one more thing to consider at the polls, next week and beyond.

NO EXIT

© Andy Singer



JEFF HANSEN • HILLS NEWSPAPERS

WE GET OCTOBER BASEBALL!



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Students deserve better

On Sept. 26, I awoke to the irritating sound of a deafening car radio. It was not. Across the street, in front of El Cerrito High School, were many students and some adults carrying signs protesting the latest actions of our West Contra Costa school board.

I'm sure the demonstrations grew out of students' and teachers' frustration with the quality of the system (scholastic and facilities).

Rather than irritate the neighbors, wouldn't it make more sense to take their protest to the West Contra Costa school district administrators — maybe suggesting the school board take a few hits to free up money to be used in the supposed end product: the education of our young people?

I believe our students deserve better.

Dana Krauter
El Cerrito

Winning is everything

It seems that many top Republicans would support Howdy Doody for governor if they thought he could win.

Arnold Schwarzenegger has not proposed any solutions nor offered any insight to the problems facing California. Curiously, when he does articulate a general position (such as pro-choice and gun control), he sounds more like a Democrat than a Republican.

In contrast, Sen. Tom McClintock has consistently espoused traditional Republican Party values. Even those who disagree with him do not question his fitness for office.

By backing Schwarzenegger (while pressuring McClintock to drop out), the party leadership has confirmed what many of us suspected all along: This recall never was about innovative solutions or guiding principles.

John Shine
El Cerrito

Not tree haters

While the El Cerrito City Council revises the city tree ordinance, it appears the issue is between tree lovers and tree haters. Not so!

People in the hills with views plant trees, love trees and tolerate trees, but we also cherish the view we admired when we built or purchased our homes.

A casual survey of real-estate appraisers and real estate agents indicates a good view can add roughly as much as 21 percent to the value of property.

Our trees add beauty, shade, protection from wind and, yes, value, but they can be trimmed or restricted to lower growing species.

A reasonable ordinance, with enforcement provisions, need not strip a hillside of lovely greenery. There can be a compromise where all values are respected.

Bill Cain
El Cerrito

Elitist attitudes

All the comments I've heard, from left and right, regarding Senate Bill 60 (driver's licenses for illegal immigrants), fail to deal with the injustice to citizens and legal residents who, unable to drive or afford cars, cannot get to job opportunities in areas that are poorly served by alternative modes of transportation.

Elitist attitudes related to our love af-

fair with the driving privilege seem to afflict liberals and conservatives alike.

But elitist attitudes should not influence land use decisions made by local and county elected officials. New urban and suburban development should be at least as accessible and functional for those who don't drive as it is for those who do. The least government can do is keep the playing field as level as possible and require illegal aliens to compete as equals with citizens who don't drive.

The cheap labor market generated by SB 60 will result in higher profits for developers and a bigger war chest for political campaign financing.

Art Weber
El Cerrito

Homophobic church

The official semi-monthly newspaper of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Oakland reaches 98,000 families across Alameda and Contra Costa counties. For most East Bay Catholics, this paper is their only official source of church news.

In May, the paper reported the Vatican release of an 867-page lexicon on bioethics and the family. Unlike a dictionary, the lexicon explains terms with brief essays. Abortion, contraception and, of course, homosexuality are prominent.

Repeating the usual defamation of homosexuals, the lexicon adds that we manipulate society into feeling guilty about homophobia, implying that Catholics should not take on this guilt. "Homosexuality has no rights because it has no social value," the lexicon declares.

When a sardonic letter of approval subsequently appeared, I protested. The paper declined to print my letter, or any letter defending the human rights of sexual minorities. Instead, it printed a foreboding about "the homosexual agenda," and headlined the Pope's latest harangue against same-sex marriage.

Roman Catholicism is a global organization centrally controlled from the Vatican, the religious equivalent of the Kremlin, and no less sinister.

Within the Oakland diocese alone, the Vatican instructs 536,000 Catholics and controls 88 parishes, two missions, 57 elementary and nine high schools, with the doctrine that Catholics should not feel guilty about their homophobia "because homosexuality has no rights and no social value."

Voters might remember this when considering tuition vouchers to Catholic schools.

Ronald Deziel
El Cerrito

Many rezoning questions

We would like to call attention to the fact that the city of Albany plans to rezone the east side of Kains Avenue and the west side of Adams Street as commercial. We have some questions about

HOW TO REACH US

Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer. Letters must include your first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification. All letters are subject to editing for brevity and style. Not all letters may be published.

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this rezoning.

What sort of commercial enterprises will this rezoning allow? Office buildings? Auto body shops? Pizza parlors? If you reside on these streets, did you anticipate living next to these businesses when you moved into your home?

Are San Pablo and Solano avenues so thoughtfully and thoroughly developed that commercial activity in Albany must overflow into residential neighborhoods?

Will rezoning mean increased traffic and decreased parking? Loud trucks? Early morning deliveries? Will the many children who now live and play on Kains and Adams continue to play on a commercial strip?

There are virtually no empty lots on these streets. Will houses be sold and torn down to accommodate new development?

Will your street be next?

If you are concerned, please attend the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting at 7 p.m. Oct. 14 in the City Council chamber at 1000 San Pablo Ave.

Allison Van Norman
Dave Miller
Albany

Enforce our laws

If state Sen. Gil Cedillo and Gray Davis had any interest in increasing the safety of California drivers, rather than signing AB 60 to allow illegal immigrants to drive on our roads, they would simply work to enforce U.S. immigration laws.

Sending the illegals home would remove the cars, hazards and traffic created by three million, mostly uninsured, mostly poorly trained drivers from our terribly overcrowded roads. The illegals don't need licenses, they need repatriation.

Protecting our borders is the most important thing our government is supposed to do. What a shame that Davis, Cedillo and George Bush can't seem to grasp the concept. We need to be rid of these incompetent "leaders!"

There are now 10 million people in America illegally and our government is doing essentially nothing about it.

We know the illegals don't respect our laws but exactly how many of them are professional criminals or terrorists?

Cornelius McCracken
Berkeley

Campaignless?

During the recent debate, Cruz Bustamante appeared as more of a godfatherly gadfly than someone who wants to occupy the corner office of the state capital.

In recent days, Bustamante's campaign has been tough to find because the courts are dogging him on campaign finance issues that don't seem to go away. As a Democrat, I was disappointed that he didn't upset Peter Camejo and Arianna Huffington, who clearly were the aggressors and articulated some very positive views on immigration, health care and the economy.

Today, Bustamante's campaign all but evaporated.

Quinn Woo
Berkeley

Arnold says

Arnold Schwarzenegger is always saying, "We have to take our government back."

Take it back from whom?

William James Wait
Berkeley

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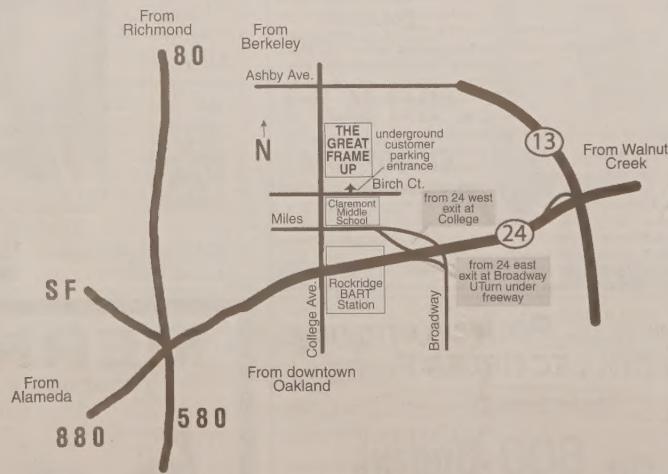
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Calendar



BERKELEY ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

Exhibits

- **Addison St. Windows Gallery**, between 2002 and 2020 Addison St., presents original paintings by Orlando Uffre, Corinne Innes and Bill Dallas from Oct. 4 through Oct. 30. A reception takes place from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Oct. 16, 510-841-1974 or e-mail the artists at info@chigallery.com.
- **ACCI Gallery**, 1652 Shattuck Ave., continues its exhibit of "Sensuous and A Jewelry Exhibition" through Oct. 4. For more information, call 510-843-2527 or visit www.acci.gallery.com.
- **The Berkeley Art Center**, 1275 Walnut St., presents an exhibit of 60 postrevolutionary Cuban posters from the Cuban Film Institute, OSPAAAL, and Editors' Politics with examples of work by Bay Area artists. Gallery hours: noon to 5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sunday. Curators Talk and Book Signing: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 8. Artist Forum at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 15. Closed Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 27. Free admission, donations accepted. For a complete listing of other events at the Center, call 510-844-6893 or visit the Web site at www.berkeleyartcenter.org.
- "Sensuous + A Jewelry Exhibition" runs through Oct. 4 at ACCI Gallery, 1652 Shattuck Ave. in Berkeley. Eight Bay Area jewelers, Junko Stickney, Jane Jeannie Haydon, Hadar Jacobson, Rebecca Overmann, Junko Stickney, Jane Kaufman, Kathleen Maley, Vanessa Martin bring their creations to the gallery. Details: 510-843-2527 or www.acci.gallery.com.
- The exhibit **Early Women of Berkeley** (1878-1953) and their organizations runs through March 27. The exhibit, curated by the College Women's Club/Berkeley Branch of the American Association of University Women and the Berkeley Historical Society, celebrates how women shaped Berkeley's history, working alone and through their
- clubs. A women's history lecture series is also planned. Exhibit open is Sunday, Sept. 28 from 2-5 p.m. at the Berkeley History Center, 1931 Center St. Details: 510-841-0181. Admission free.
- The "Mixed Media" exhibit continues through Oct. 23. Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Saturday at Red Oak Healy. Address: 1891 Solano Ave., Berkeley. Admission: Free. 510-527-3387.

Film/dance/stage

- **Shotgun Players** presents "The Water Principle," Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 7 p.m. The production takes place through Oct. 19 at 8th Street Studio, 2525 Eighth St., between Dwight and Parker. Prices: \$18 regular, \$12 students, seniors. Ticket information: 510-704-8210 or visit www.shotgunplayers.org.
- Children's Hospital & Research Center at Oakland, Children's Hospital Branches and Auctions By the Bay in Alameda are presenting a private screening of the award-winning documentary film "My Flesh and Blood" on Tuesday, Oct. 14. Reception at 6 p.m., screening 7 p.m. followed by conversation with the local filmmakers, including director Jonathan Karsh (former host of "Evening Magazine"), producer Jennifer Chaiken and special guest, Susan Tom of Fairfield. The film looks at the nature of caring and responsibility from the perspective of Susan Tom, and her 11 special-needs children. The documentary won the Audience Award at the 2002 Sundance Film Festival where it beat documentary and the Jury Prize for best direction. The screening will take place at the Auctions By the Bay Theater in Alameda. Tickets: \$10. Proceeds benefit Children's Hospital & Research Center at Oakland. Advance ticket purchase: 510-428-3814. Details: www.chofoundation.org.
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Ocean View Celebration

LECTURE SERIES commemorating the 150th anniversary of the naming of Ocean View, Berkeley's early settlement village, will be held Oct. 3 to Nov. 20. The series is sponsored by the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association and Berkeley Historical Society. To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the settlement of Ocean View, eight lectures will be offered to the public, ranging on a broad variety of historical topics from the natural history, the formation of Francisco Bay, the creeks and native life to the character of ocean life and the creation of a town, the arrival of various ethnic racial groups, the neighborhood struggle to keep west Berkeley residential, the influx of artists live/work studios in old abandoned warehouses, current uses and future planning. The series begins Friday, Oct. 3, 7 p.m. at Finn Hall on 10th Street near corner of Hearst Street. Speakers will be Dr. Kent Lightfoot, anthropologist, and Malcolm Margolin, author of *The Ohlone Way*, publisher of Heyday Books, speaking on the early terrain and life. The series is open to the public. Tickets are \$10 per person or \$45 for the series. However, no one will be turned away for lack of funding. Tickets may be ordered by mail to BAH, P.O. Box 7, Berkeley, CA 94701. For more information call Stephanie at 510-841-8562 (e-mail: bahworks@yahoo.com) or Barbara Gates by e-mail, bgates@gtcinternet.com.

Submissions to the Community must be received Thursdays 5 p.m. prior to publication. Lists are on a space-available basis. Submissions to Ann Fields, 1969 Main Blvd., Oakland, CA 94611; or to fields@cttimes.com or fax 0-399-4066.

Idren

Idren and Creative Movement classes take place at Ashkenaz, 1317 Park Ave. Teacher Kathryn Rosakoff has been with the San Francisco Ballet and has taught children throughout the Bay Area. Creative Movement is 3-6, Wednesdays 3:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., Sept. 24 to Nov. 19; Beginner Ballet (ages 7-9, some 6-year-olds), Wednesdays 4:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 24 to Dec. 3. Enrollment is a space available basis. Call attending class, 510 233 5550.

Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., presents "Read Me a Story," a free program in which teens read books aloud to young children, 3 and up. The program takes place from 4 to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and Saturday through Aug. 16, 8:26-3720, ext. 20.

Children's Social Skills and workshops are offered in Albany for two hours, 3 to 5 p.m. workshop lasts for four weeks. Tues. Linda, 527-6202. Teen Support group meets twice a month Tuesday at the Women's Cancer Resource Center, 3023 Shattuck Ave. The group is for teens who have a parent caregiver with cancer. The meetings are co-facilitated by a teen whose parent had breast cancer, 531-7551.

Check out books from the **Berkeley Jewish Community Center** Library. Spend quality time with your children at the children's librarian, check your Jewish roots or check out sellers. The library is at 1414 Walnut St. Hours: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays. 848-0237.

Cerrito offers special programs for children from 2 months to 5 years designed to offer parents an opportunity to leave their pre-school children in a safe atmosphere under qualified supervision. The program for ages three to 3 1/2 years meets Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration is continuous as long as space is available. Located at 7007 Moeser St. 215-4371.

Ann Martin Children's Center offers "Support Groups For Mothers" sessions for first time mothers and their babies under 5 months. Experienced facilitator. Details: 524-4228.

Community offers workshops in "Basics of Investing" 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Oct. 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 on the Internet at www.pccca.us at 2020 Alston Way, 110 on Monday and Tuesday 8 to 4:30 p.m. 510-981-2927.

Berkeley Neighborhood Computer a non-profit organization, provides value and high-demand computer technology training for disadvantaged at-risk individuals. The organization uses computers and networking equipment to be used for training purposes. All donations are tax deductible. 845-1226 e-mail: bnc@netvalue.net.

Berkeley Camera Club meets Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. Share slides and prints, learn what other photographers are doing, field trips. Details: 525-3565.

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Beat, 2560 Ninth St. Classes run as a monthly series. Details: Michael Marango, 528-7858.

Health

■ **Charcot Marie Tooth** support group meets Saturdays bimonthly at West Berkeley Library, 1133 University Ave. from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CMT is a neurofibromatosis disorder. Details: 524-3506.

■ **YWCA Health and Community Education**, drop in classes in dance, fitness, yoga, martial arts and more; University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, 848-6370; \$8 - \$10.

Lecture/workshop

■ "Looking at the Middle East Conflict from the Heart and from the Head." Are you battered by the news from Israel? John others who are concerned or conflicted about the Middle East to sort out facts from feelings and seek a personal peace. Led by Riva Gambert of the Israel Task Force and Dawn Kepler of Building Jewish Bridges. Monday, Oct. 20, 7:30 to 9 p.m., Berkeley Richmond JCC, 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley, \$5. Details: Dawn, 510-839-2900 ext. 347, dawn@fed.org or www.fed.org/interfaith.htm.

See CALENDAR, Page A9

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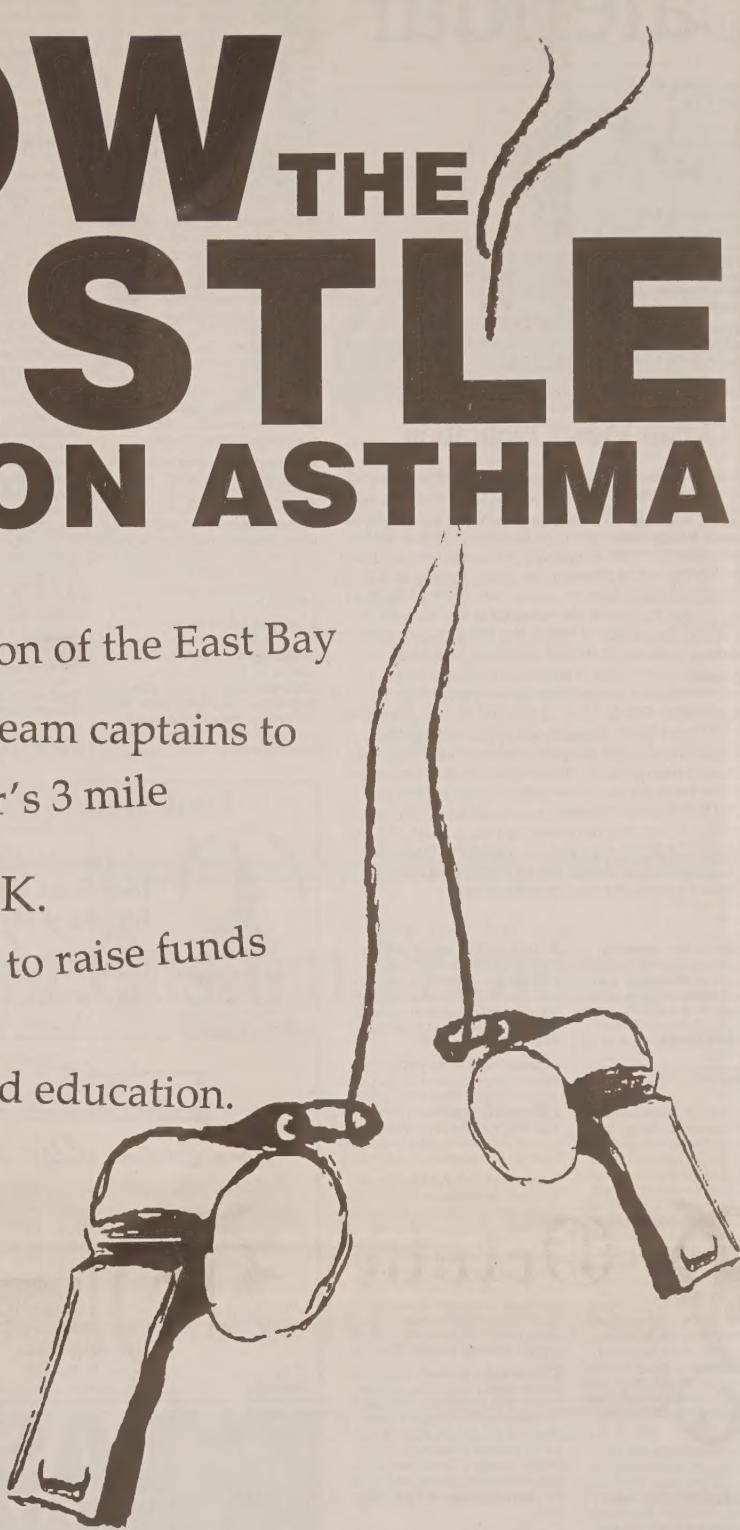
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lendar

PAGE A7

Berkeley Camera Club meets today evening, at 7:30 p.m. at the Alpha Community Church, 941 1/2 Berkeley. Share your prints and learn what other members are doing. Monthly field trip, 510-525-3565 or www.berkeleycameraclub.org.

■ **Chuan and Chi-kung** at Berkeley Unitarian Church at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays and 9 a.m. Saturday. Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarians, 1924 Cedar St. All physical conditions welcome. Donation: \$65. 268-4995.

WCA offers free orientations of the Point Career Center. The ones outline the resources available to the public as well as the differences that the center has to offer a great variety of workshops. Held every Tuesday, at 1:30 p.m. Turning Point Career Center is Bancroft Way. 848-6370.

■ **computer applications** for the world. Using Windows '95 and Microsoft Office 2000 software, Microsoft Access, PowerPoint, Publisher offered. Monday-Friday, 5 p.m. Location: Contra Costa Office of Education, 13925 San Leandro, Suite No. 111, San Pablo. 3 or www.ccooe.k12.ca.us/rop.

■ **Ans Anonymous**: 12-Step is every Sunday at 8 p.m. Call 3 for Berkeley location.

Events

Telling for Adults, a group of readers and listeners, who love to stories, to keep the oral tradition, meet from 7 to 8:45 p.m. on Thursday each month at the Branch, Berkeley Public Library, 1400 Benvenue, at Ashby. Free. 6880; or 525-1533.

■ **Reading Edge** is available for use at the Berkeley Public Library, 1400 Kirtledge St. This computerized text and reads it back with a synthesized voice. It's for anyone with a disability. To use it to access print materials must complete a brief training before using the Reading Center; reservations are available at 644-6648 to set up a session.

Lectures

■ **treasure/Annex Auction** Friday, October 6th, 11 a.m. vs. Sunday, October 5th, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. & Day of Sale at 9 a.m. at the Alameda Point Antiques & Collectibles Fair.

■ **uctions By The Bay, Inc.** 510-740-0220 www.auctionsbythebay.com



CONTRIBUTED

UNDERSTANDING THE AMERICANS and **Understanding the French** is the knotty subject that will be discussed by author Pascal Baudry at a free talk hosted by Ecole Bilingue de Berkeley in the Andersen Auditorium at UC Berkeley's Haas School of Business on Thursday, Oct. 9 at 7:30 p.m. Baudry is the author of a cyberbook entitled "Franais et Américains - L'autre rive" ("French and Americans - The Other Shore"), published in French. Baudry, who has lived in the United States for nearly 20 years, will address (in English) the dynamics of the French-American relationship and the cultural basis of the recent rift. Being keenly aware of the love-hate dimension of the relationship between the two cultures, especially in the present international context, he will endeavor to examine particular explicit and implicit aspects of both cultures. For details on the talk call 510-549-3867.

■ **Kol Hadash**, the Bay Area's only Jewish Humanistic Congregation, with more than 110 family members from around the Bay Area, meets on the fourth Friday of each month for a regular Shabbat (Sabbath), every other month on a Saturday for a Family Shabbat. The group holds Sunday school classes two Sundays a month, celebrates all the major Jewish holidays and holds special events from time to time.

Location: Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave. 428-1492.

Miscellany

■ UC Berkeley Lawrence Hall of Science holds a science exhibit "Jelly Belly presents Candy Unwrapped," Oct. 4 through Jan. 4. LHS is the public science and math center of UC Berkeley. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Location: Centennial Drive below Grizzly.

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■ The Center for Independent Living announces its newly created **Asian Outreach Program** to assist Asian individuals with disabilities, particularly new immigrants. Providing services and advocacy in Cantonese, Vietnamese, and English, program staff are culturally sensitive and knowledgeable of community and government service available to individuals with disabilities. 510-763-9999.

■ The "Where Art Meets Garden Series" in Peralta Community Garden is taking place for four Sundays from the Summer Solstice to the Fall Equinox and is hosted by Kirk Lumpkin in collaboration with Karl Linn. Cost: Free or donation (no one turned away). The series, which is open to the public, continues Sunday, Oct. 5, (originally scheduled for Sept. 28), from 2:55 p.m., featuring "In the Balance: Poetry & Jazz The Word-Music Continuum" (Kirk Lumpkin-poetry/percussion, Mark Randall-bass, Paul Mills-guitar). The Word-Music Continuum is a unique performance ensemble uniting music with the spoken word. The garden is in Berkeley on Peralta between Hopkins and Gilman streets; west side of the street. Details: 510-231-5912, kirklumpkin@mac.com

■ **Friendship Circle**, a Jewish club for older adults, meet 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays, at the Oakland Senior Center, 200 Grand Ave. The club is an outreach program of Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center. Activities include day trips, Jewish holiday celebrations, theater outings, entertainment, speaker and much more. Call Maria at 848-0237 ext. 115 for details.

■ Improve your speaking skills by attending **Berkeley Communicators' Toastmaster** meetings, the first and third Wednesdays each month at 7:15 a.m. at Vault's Cafe, 3250 Adeline St. Call 527-2337 for more information.

■ **Disabled American Veterans** Chapter 25 meets on the third Tuesday of the month. The evening begins with a no-host dinner and fellowship at 7 p.m. at 2068 Center St. A short business meeting follows at 8 p.m. at 1931 Center St., the Veterans Memorial Building. Price: \$3. Women who have had relatives in the US Military are invited to attend and join the auxiliary. R. DeRitt, Cmdr. D.A.V. Chapter 25, 916-372-8364.

■ The **YWCA** offers free orientations of its **Turning Point Career Center**. The orientations outline the resources available to the public and the great variety of workshops held every Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. The Turning Point Career Center is at 2600 Bancroft Way. 848-6370.

■ **The Berkeley Avatar Metaphysics Toastmasters** Club meet on the first and third Thursdays, from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., at 2515 Hillsgass Ave. Public speaking skills and metaphysics come together. 869-2547 or 643-7645.

■ **The Kensington Senior Activity Center** meets on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. The center's

community program of life-long learning is presented by the West Contra Costa Adult School. Attend any class or event you choose. Everyone over 55 is welcome. Details: 526-9146 or 547-1699.

■ **Speak Smart**: Join **Peking Express Toastmasters**, The Smart Club Meetings take place each Monday, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Peking Express Restaurant, 2068 Center St. 549-9671.

■ **Toastmasters**: Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice with us. Every Tuesday, Noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Berkeley. 883-6708.

■ **Joy of Yiddish**: Yiddish conversation at 1 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst. Call 644-6107.

■ **The Berkeley Arthritis Support and Education Group** meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except December) 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. 204-4503.

■ **Toastmasters on Campus** meet the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the English Language Program Building, 2515 Hillsgass. Details: 704-1822.

■ "Voices of Healing" is a group exploring the psychological and spiritual dimensions of illness and healing. The group meets on the second Friday of each month, 1 to 2:30 p.m. in North Berkeley, 528-1235.

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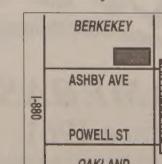
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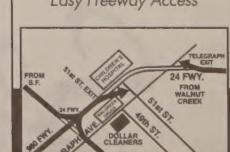
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Cal's homecoming week makes its return

After a 40-year break, festivities are back — Berkeley-style, of course

By Carrie Sturrock

TIMES STAFF WRITER

BERKELEY — There is no Queen. There are no Kings. No big parade. But after a year hiatus, UC Berkeley brought back homecoming in perhaps the only way they can.

"There are many voices at Cal," he explained. "We're trying to create more unity through this experience."

Cal did have a bit of homecoming spirit in the intervening years. But it wasn't student-driven. In 1997 the alumni association brought back homecoming weekend, and a couple years later combined it with parents weekend. But the association wanted something student-centered and longer.

This probably has a practical side. Alums with a strong connection to their alma mater are more likely to pony up money if there are events drawing them to campus. And greater campus spirit can lead to a richer college experience.

One alumnus, a man in thick glasses and patched pants who said he attended Berkeley in the 1960s and again in the 1980s, stopped by the homecoming tent Tuesday to learn more about the week's events.

See CAL, Page A12

OXES

M PAGE A1

busy commuters, Hilton arranged a letter to Boster, she urged to keep the blue boxes on commuter routes, likeero Avenue.

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Cuts

FROM PAGE A1

from El Cerrito's schedule last week because they fell below the district-mandated minimum enrollment of about 30 students. The one-month extension will allow students to receive the full 5 credits for the courses, but they will miss about two months of instruction.

The cuts at El Cerrito High are echoed at schools throughout the West Contra Costa Unified School District, and at schools up and down the state, said Howard Cohen, regional superintendent for secondary schools.

"Ultimately the issue is not what's happening at one school but what's happening at all the schools," Cohen said. This year, district enrollment turned out to be 1,500 fewer students than projected, which meant a drop in revenue from the state.

"If the enrollment is very low at one school, that means overall we only have this much money to cut up in the pie for everybody," Cohen said.

Yet at El Cerrito High, enrollment is up by at least 40 students compared to last year, said Principal Vince Rhea. "Enrollment has gone up slightly, but we have about the same teacher allocation," he said.

Teachers at El Cerrito High said these factors, compounded by the dropped sections, lead to more crowded classes and increasingly overloaded teachers.

"This is a huge district and for equity they were cutting across the board," said Kate Bloomer, a history teacher at El Cerrito High. "We still have kids in classes of 35 or more and teachers teaching more than 90 students. Contractually, they're not supposed to do that," she said.

But Principal Rhea said that to be financially responsible, El Cerrito High has to be a "team player."

"Sometimes that's the hardest thing to do, because we all want to keep our own domain intact," said Rhea. "I have to balance what I believe is good for the district and what's good for the school."

Cohen said the cuts came late in the semester because it takes a while for enrollment numbers to stabilize. Some students enroll late. Others spend the first few weeks transferring between courses. "We waited to make sure that what we were cutting was reasonable and realistic so we could actually rely on the numbers we have," he said.

Administrators were also delayed by a computer virus that shut down computers for a week at the beginning of the school year.

Although classes have been cut at secondary schools district-wide, the timing of the cuts affects El Cerrito High more severely because of the block scheduling system, in which students cover an entire course in one semester rather than a whole year.

"The problem here at El Cerrito

is legitimate," said District School Board Member George Harris III. "They're effectively twice as far into the school year as other schools are. It's a disruption," he said.

Michele Jawad, president of the PTSAs, said parents and teachers are worried about how the cuts will affect students' morale. "We all know that budget cuts are a reality," she said. But Jawad said the message administrators are sending to students by cutting classes mid-semester is that their hard work doesn't matter and "everybody is expendable."

Other problems at the school only add to the frustration. Students have not been able to check out books because the computerized checkout system is down. They can't use the Internet on the school's 300 computers because the hard drives have to be scanned for the virus. Freshman sports teams have been eliminated because the athletics budget was cut in half. Many of the school's drinking fountains and wall clocks don't

work.

"This year it seems like there are more things that are not working," said Paula Gocker, an English teacher at El Cerrito High. "The final outrage was when our kids lost their classes."

Gocker is one of several teachers who organized the protests and a community meeting Monday evening at the school library. "People think that children and teachers are always accommodating and we'll just make do," said Gocker. "We just felt that enough was enough."

More than a dozen parents, students and teachers addressed the district school board Wednesday evening to state their concerns and to propose alternative ways to apply the budget cuts.

"We think the money needs to come out of the district administration. They've got to make other cuts," Gocker said. "The bottom line is that students should be the top priority."

Carrie Ching is a freelance journalist and a graduate student at UC Berkeley.

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Richmond Greenway grant to wait

Richmond's takeover of the project left it without enough time to pull together documentation for development funds

By Rebecca Rosen Lum
STAFF WRITER

RICHMOND — The city has abandoned its hopes for a \$1.9 million grant to develop the Richmond Greenway, but will likely recoup the award next year.

The city took over the project from a nonprofit organization during the middle of the funding cycle. It turned out not to be enough time to pull together the requisite documentation by the "final, final deadline," which was Tuesday, said Melanie Mitzter, project coordinator for the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy.

Ultimately, the 2½-mile path will become a regional trail, connecting the Ohlone Greenway on the east with the Bay Trail on the west and linking schools, libraries and the Miller-Knox Regional Park.

Staff for the Metropolitan Transportation Commission advised Mayor Irma Anderson, who sits on the MTC board, to hold off on pursuing the grant for a year. The regional agency, instead, awarded the money to one of three contingency projects. It had already granted Richmond one extension.

"I understand that MTC has never given a second extension to any project," said Councilman Tom Butt, who has been the greenway's champion.

The city will not be able to re-

cover the \$1 million that went into design work, however.

"The city will have to work really hard to get all this done — studies, preliminary engineering, your environmental documents, cultural resources inventory," said Mitzter, whose group helped plan the greenway.

The city took over the project too late in the game to complete the various studies.

During the next six to nine months, the public will have opportunities to weigh in on design and safety features.

"If you think of it as a linear park, there are a lot of considerations, making it fit in with what a community can manage and afford," Mitzter said.

The MTC threatened to pull the grant in 2002, citing a lack of progress and mismanagement by the Community Youth Council for Leadership and Education, or CYCLE, the local nonprofit group that managed the project for six years.

To hold onto it, city officials offered to ante up matching funds. The costs ultimately could come close to \$3 million, Butt said.

Richmond acquired the land in 1979 and designated it as open space in 1991. Yet the project lay dormant, the result of scarce funds and limited staff time.

Once a gem in the crown of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad, the stretch became a blighted nuisance.

Representatives from CYCLE approached Rails-to-Trails six years ago. The conservancy helped them raise \$50,000 in state funds and \$50,000 in an MTC planning grant. Last year, they helped land the \$1.9 million capital grant.

Even with a staff of three, CYCLE never gained momentum, critics say. Issues were studied, but came to no definitive end.

Butt said one-time railroad corridors provide cities with a rare opportunity to gain open space and bring the benefits of a greenway to residents.

The path crosses by branches of Cerrito Creek and "a garden featuring plants that have been around since the Jurassic," Butt said.

Cal

FROM PAGE A11

With one hand on his bike, its baskets stuffed with empty grocery bags, he said he was thrilled with the campus spirit he sensed.

"All of this is to get a feeling of campus community again — and I'm glad," he said. "I look at these rather clean-cut individuals. To me, they represent a hope for now and a hope for the future. They're 'for' rather than 'against.'"

For Tuesday's banner competition on the theme "Something Old, Something New," judged by faculty and alumni, several Greek organizations painted big brown bears or scenes of the campus. Students for Howard Dean had a picture of President Bush for "something old" and a photo of Democratic presidential primary candidate Dean for "something new."

One alumni judge with a bow tie knotted at his throat, Nadenean Permaul, chuckled. "Only at Berkeley. There's nothing like Berkeley." Later, an anti-apartheid banner prompted him to say, "I just love Berkeley."

The homecoming events seemed to please students not involved in the planning.

"It's a good feeling to know you're proud of where you go," said senior Noah Kagan, looking at the homecoming tent. "I respect them and appreciate them promoting Cal."

For project workers, ever the Twain shall meet

■ Cal Class of '58 returns for reunion bearing gifts for school's Twain Project

By Martin Snapp
STAFF WRITER

From all over the world, the UC Berkeley Class of 1958 ("None so Great as '58") are returning to their alma mater to-day for their 45th reunion.

At tonight's reunion banquet, class gift chairman Bill Peterson of Piedmont will give Chancellor Robert Berdahl two presents. One is a park bench with a life-size statue of Mark Twain sitting on it, reading a copy of "Huckleberry Finn."

The other is a check for \$300,000, down payment on the class gift of \$580,000, which will help endow one of the most remarkable — and least known — scholarly enterprises on campus, the Mark Twain Project.

Squirrelled away on the top floor of the Bancroft Library, a half-dozen Twain scholars have been laboring for 36 years on an impossible assignment: to collect, organize, annotate and publish everything Twain ever wrote, including letters, manuscripts, scrapbooks, business documents — even notes to the milkman.

It's a Sisyphean task, because new Twain writings are popping up all the time — in auctions, used book stores, auctions and eBay — faster than the Twain Project can collect them.

"Twain would have appreciated the humor of the situation," says general editor Robert Hirst.

He also would have appreciated the attention. "It is human to like to be praised," he once wrote, "One can even notice it in the French."

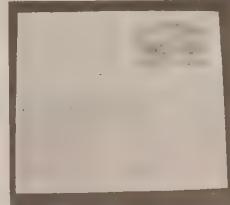
Hirst has been working for the Twain Project since 1967, when he signed on as an entry-level fact checker.

"I thought it was just a temporary job to get me through grad school," he says. "The next thing I knew it was 1980, and I was general editor."

Working in an office littered with Twain kitsch, including a souvenir coin from the Calaveras County Jumping Frog Contest and a plastic tombstone reading, "Injun Joe, R.I.P.", Hirst knows more about Twain than Twain did.

One of his most important contributions to Twain scholarship is an annotation system he calls "plain text," which allows scholars to trace every change Twain made in various drafts of the text without interfering with the general reader's ability to read it for pure pleasure.

Of all the unknown Twain writings still out there, the ones



that tantalize Hirst most are the letters.

"We have or know of about 11,000 Twain letters," he says. "But there are at least 50,000 more out there, waiting to be discovered. My colleague Mike Frank thinks the number is closer to 100,000."

The ones he'd most like to get his hands on are the dispatches Twain wrote in 1865 as a young reporter for the San Francisco Enterprise, when he was honing the wit that would make him famous.

Only three survive, including this parody of a snooty society column: "Miss C.L.B. had her fine nose elegantly enameled, and the easy grace with which she blew it from time to time marked her as a cultivated and accomplished woman of the world."

Hirst and his colleagues — Michael Frank, Victor Fisher, Harriet Elinor Smith, Lin Salamo and Anh Bui — have an average tenure of 27 years with the Twain Project. Though he says "They'll have to carry me out of here," he knows that one of his highest priorities has to be finding their successors.

"That's where the Class of '58 comes in," he says. "We need a \$10 million permanent endowment, and their donation is the seed money. An endowment would enable us to hire the next generation and train them. It's not something you can learn overnight."

"For instance, every time you're working with a text, you have to decide: Is this Twain's version? Or is it some well-meaning typesetter trying to 'correct' his text? It calls for very sophisticated literary judgment."

The park bench and Twain statue are currently on the ground floor of Doe Library. They will be moved to the lawn in front of the Bancroft Library after its renovation project finishes.

The statue was the inspiration for the endowment.



A LIFE-SIZE STATUE of Mark Twain is fine company for Bob Peterson, director of the Mark Twain Project at UC Berkeley. The project, which is currently inside Doe Library but will be moved outside when the Bancroft renovations are finished, was ended by the class of 1958. At left, a letter from Twain to Charles W. Stoddard, dated April 23, 1867, is part of the collection.

"My wife and I were down in Palm Desert, and we looked in a store window and saw Mark Twain sitting there on the bench," says Peterson. "That got me to thinking about the Mark Twain Project, and I thought, 'Let's do both!'"

Hirst is glad they did. "This is the first time anybody or anything has taken an interest in endowing our staff, and each and every one of us is grateful to the Class of '58 for it," he says.

The Mark Twain Project also accepts donations from the public. Donations are tax-deductible and may be sent to the Mark Twain Project, 480 Doe Library, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA 9470-6000.

Though Hirst has been reading Twain every day of his pro-

fessional life, it's still as it was when he signed in 1967.

"You'd think it would go," he says. "But it never does."

And that's exactly what intended. "High & fine lie is wine, and mine is only lie he wrote. 'But everybody water.'

Reach Martin Snapp at 262-2787 or msnapp@ctimes.com.

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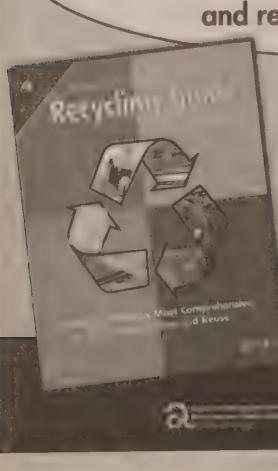
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Real Estate & Home

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Friday, October 3, 2003

Section B

You just never know when something might come in handy

Return to May 2001, Number 365 in a series of true stories in real estate. This week we and one of theers who works on our listings, been looking for light fixtures. The house that needs a listing we expect to go on market in late July, is a lovely, a Craftsman with beautiful details. But, over the s, the original light fixtures changed to modern ones, and just don't right. We need 14 recesses; 14 is a first the ever was in locating an era man-erera, but after king prices and adding up so many would cost, she ded that others would do

the fixtures needed are. As we added the costs and again, I suddenly realized I have four sconces that it work in the house. I have need for them anymore, and I'd be glad to contribute them.

The stager will take to the house to see if they look right there. Chances are they will work, thereby expanding our budget.

How lucky, I've been thinking, that I still had them. And this made me wonder, as I have numerous times in my life, about what I should hold onto and what I should let go. There have been times, sometimes years after the fact, that I've certainly regretted

I allow myself, usually guilt-free, to keep things that I think may become more valuable someday and ones I fantasize that my children will want: embroidered and tatted tablecloths, toys, doll cribs and wooden children's chairs.

that I gave away certain possessions. Should I have held onto everything?

Once I had, for instance, an upholstered footstool with fat wooden feet that I gave away in a cleaning-out mode. I don't know why I did that. It didn't take up a lot of room and surely, I might have saved it. I could be using it now.



TARPOFF AND TALBERT
True Experiences

Another sorrow is an old wooden kitchen chair, a turned-spool ladder-back which I probably bought at a flea market. I painted it orange and put it in the bedroom of my first apartment and loved it. I could use that

chair now. A gate-leg kitchen table, painted white, and a hand-made braided rug are also gone and missed.

After my mother died, I took months to decide what of hers to keep, what to give away. It was my plan to bring home and use what I could, get rid of the rest. I

See TARPOFF, Page B3

Median home price breaks 400,000 barrier in August

Sales set new record in August, C.A.R. reports

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

The median price of an existing home in California in August increased 21.1 percent and sales increased 14.7 percent compared to the same period a year ago, according to the California Association of Realtors.

"Consumers' concerns about the recent up-tick in mortgage interest rates pushed sales into record territory last month as buyers jumped into the housing market," said C.A.R. president Toby Bradley. "The median price of a

home broke the \$400,000 mark for the first time in history, increasing to a record \$404,870 in August."

Closed escrow sales of existing, single-family detached homes in California totaled a record 645,720 in August at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate, according to information collected by C.A.R. from more than 90 local Realtor associations statewide.

Statewide home resale activity increased 14.7 percent from the 562,780 sales pace recorded in August 2002.

The statewide sales figure represents what the total number of homes sold during 2003 would be

if sales maintained the August pace throughout the year. It is adjusted to account for seasonal factors that typically influence home sales.

The median price of an existing, single-family detached home in California during August 2003 was a record \$404,870, a 21.1 percent increase over the \$334,270 median for August 2002, C.A.R. reported. The August 2003 median price increased 5.6 percent compared to a \$383,390 median price in July.

"All regions of the state recorded a marked increase in sales activity last month," said Leslie Appleton-Young, C.A.R.'s vice president and

chief economist. "Year-to-date sales are comparable to last year's pace at this point in time."

Highlights of C.A.R.'s resale housing figures for August 2003:

■ C.A.R.'s Unsold Inventory Index for existing, single-family detached homes in August 2003 was 2.1 months, compared to 2.6 months for the same period a year ago. The index indicates the number of months needed to deplete the supply of homes on the market at the current sales rate.

■ Thirty-year fixed mortgage interest rates averaged 6.30 percent during August 2003, up from 6.29 percent in August 2002, according

to Freddie Mac. Adjustable mortgage interest rates averaged 3.82 percent in August 2003 compared to 4.38 percent in August 2002.

■ The median number of days it took to sell a single-family home was 26 days in August 2003, compared to a revised 23 days for the same period a year ago.

Regional sales data is not adjusted to account for seasonal factors that can influence home sales. The MLS median price and sales data for detached homes is generated from a survey of more than 90 associations of Realtors throughout

See REPORT, Page B2

OPEN HOMES	
Albany	\$338,000
545 Pierce St. #2202	Sun 2 - 5
2 BR 2 BA Spacious & Light condo! Contemporary amenities. Equipped w/ pool, gym & spa.	
Catherine Varnu & R/ Zwedling	510.486.1495
Clairemont Hills	\$1,730,000
1628 Grand View Dr.	Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 5 BA Mediterranean w/ views of Golden Gate, SF & S Bay. Gourmet kitchen/lam rm, formal dining.	
Jeffrey Neidman	510.339.4700
Berkeley	\$875,000
22 San Mateo Rd.	Sun 2 - 5
4 BR 3 BA Elegance & Privacy! Nr. Indian Rock. Traditional w/stylish upgrades.	
Nancy Reicher	510.981.3018
Berkeley	\$862,000
765 San Diego Rd.	Sun 1 - 4
Fabulous Colonial in 1000 Oaks! 4+BR/4BA. Features: hdwd flrs., frsh, paint, landscaped garden.	
Marilyn Garcia	510.486.1495
Berkeley	\$839,000
225 Gravatt Dr.	Sun 1 - 4:30
Wonderful ceilings, original wainscoting, views, 2-car garage.	
Victor Ratio	510.339.4700
Berkeley	\$679,000
2114 Marin Ave.	Sun 2 - 4:30
5 BR 3 BA Traditional tri-lvl, 5+BR 3BA, view of Bay, HWK w/hoak, frplc in LR, freshly painted.	
Gary Robinson	510.486.1495
Berkeley	\$679,000
2803 Regent St.	Sun 1 - 4
Classic, gleaming, original wainscoting.	
Jeannie McHugh	510.486.1495
CANCELLED	
Berkeley	\$599,000
2436 McGee Ave.	Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 1 BA Not your Grammy's bungalow! Great room w/gourmet kit., skylights, hdwd floors.	
Rita Zwedling	510.486.1495
Berkeley	\$350,000
1849 Spruce St.	Sun 2 - 4
Plank floors, fireplace, archways, winding baths, and private courtyard. Close to UC Berkeley. Gourmet Ghetto. Own a piece of history.	
James Brown	510.486.1495
CANCELLED	
Berkeley	\$599,000
1714 Hearst Ave.	Sun 1 - 4
2 BR 1 BA 1364 sq. ft. Contractors Project in central Berk. Loc. Victorian-esque See Josh Whiteman	
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Oakland Hills	\$1,495,000
6877 Elverton	Sun 2 - 5
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David Eckert & Karyn Selby Miller	510.339.4700
Clementon Heights	\$1,295,000
15 Live Oak Rd.	Sun 2 - 4:30
4+BR 3.5 BA Level-in design, views, chef's kitchen, terrace, many upgrades, lavish master.	
David Eckert	510.339.4700
Oakland Hills	\$1,250,000
1029 Amito Dr.	Sun 2 - 4:30
5 BR 4.5 BA Almost new, Bay & canyon views, gourmet kitchen/family room combo, fabulous master suite.	
David Eckert	510.339.4700
Lincoln Heights	\$848,000
2800 & 2814 Sylhove Rd.	Sun 1 - 5
Enchanting property: 2 houses, one lot. Large house is charming cabin + small cottage.	
Donna Conroy	510.339.4700
Crocker Highlands	\$599,000
926 Rosemont	Sun 2 - 5
3+BR+ 2 BA Nice outlook. Sun-lit 1927 Trad., lovely FP, HWK, FDR, nice kit., private patio/lawn area.	
Ruby Ng	510.339.4700
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Upper Rockridge \$949,000
3 BR 3 BA Custom-built 1993. Quality & nice detail throughout. Large kitchen & family room; spa. Motivated seller, Donald Coelho 510.339.4700

Piedmont \$939,000
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RAINTREE STUDIOS

Report

FROM PAGE B1

the state. MLS median price and sales data for condominiums is based on a survey of more than 60 associations. The median price for both detached homes and condominiums represents closed escrow sales.

HIGHEST MEDIAN PRICES

Statewide, the 10 cities and communities with the highest median home prices in California during August 2003 were:

- Malibu, \$1,265,000
- Laguna Beach, \$1,227,500
- Palos Verdes Estates, \$1,075,000
- Manhattan Beach, \$1,050,000
- Beverly Hills, \$1,027,500
- Newport Beach, \$939,000
- Coronado, \$925,000
- La Canada-Flintridge, \$837,500
- Mill Valley, \$835,000
- Rancho Palos Verdes, \$799,000

GREATEST PRICE INCREASE

Statewide, the 10 cities and communities with the greatest median home price increases in August 2003 compared to the same period a year ago were:

- Malibu, 61 percent;
- Arcadia, 49.5 percent;
- Laguna Hills, 43.7 percent;
- La Canada-Flintridge, 42.7 percent;
- Montclair, 40.6 percent;
- Laguna Beach, 38.3 percent;
- San Fernando, 34.1 percent;
- Chino, 34 percent;
- Redlands, 33.7 percent;
- Glendale, 33.3 percent.

All regions of the state recorded a marked increase in sales activity last month. Year-to-date sales are comparable to last year's pace at this point in time.

Leslie Appleton-Young, C.A.R. vice president and chief economist

In a separate report covering more localized statistics generated by C.A.R. and DataQuick Information Systems, 95 percent or 345 of 362 cities and communities showed an increase in their respective median home prices from a year ago.

DataQuick statistics are based on county records data rather than MLS information. DataQuick Information Systems is a subsidiary of Vancouver-based McDonald Dettwiler and Associates.

Large changes in local median home prices typically indicate both local home price appreciation, and often, large shifts in the composition of housing market activity. Some of the variations in median home prices may be exaggerated due to compositional changes in housing demand.

The California Association of Realtors is one of the largest state trade organizations in the United States, with more than 130,000 members dedicated to the advancement of professionalism in real estate. C.A.R. is headquartered in Los Angeles.

PLEASE RECYCLE.

Careful planning can help preserve your assets

You have spent most of your life planning and saving for retirement and taking care of your family's needs. In order to preserve your nest egg and continue providing for your heirs, it is important to create a complete estate plan.

As uncomfortable as it may be to think about death, you deserve an estate plan that will ensure that your assets are distributed smoothly and that your dreams for your family's future are realized. Before you begin creating a plan, there are a few questions you should ask yourself that may help define the structure of your estate plan.

Among these questions are how you want your assets divided, how you plan on dealing with long-term care or illness and whether or not you need to protect your heirs from estate taxes. You should also ensure that you

have selected the right person to take care of your assets.

By creating an estate plan yourself, you can have the satisfaction of knowing your assets will be distributed to your family and loved ones as you intended. You have many tools available to help you including a will, power of attorney, health care power of attorney, living will and trusts. Let us take a closer look at each of these estate planning vehicles:

Will. This document is basically your plan for distributing your assets to your family and other beneficiaries. You can customize certain provisions of your will to meet your personal needs and you can name a guardian for your minor children. However, should you become incapacitated, a will does not provide for management of your assets.

Durable power of attorney. This legal document allows you to name another person to act on your behalf, should the need arise. He or she will generally be able to sell, invest and spend your assets as you instruct. Unlike a traditional power of attorney, which terminates at disability or death, a durable power of attorney will continue during incapacity or disability to provide a safety net of financial management.

Health care power of attorney and living will. A health care power of attorney authorizes an individual, designated by you, to arrange for your personal care and medical needs in the event you are unable to do so for yourself. A living will is a document that expresses your intentions regarding the use of life-sustaining measures in the event of a serious physical or mental condition.

Trusts. Trusts are one of the most flexible and all encompassing financial planning tools available. Working with your attorney, you can customize trust provisions to accomplish a multitude of goals. You can provide for continued management of your financial affairs while you are alive and healthy, in the event of accident or incapacity, at your death, or even for future generations.



Leila Gough

Money Matters

While estate planning is a personal and private matter, it is often a good idea to include children and grandchildren in the planning process or at least consider outlining the structure of your estate plan with those members who will be affected. In addition, they should also know where appropriate estate planning documents can be located. Estate plans are generally successful with the support and cooperation of family members. A solid estate plan can ensure your assets will be preserved.

Please note that A.G. Edwards does not render tax or legal advice. Consult your financial advisor for your specific situation.

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ANIAN PETTIT TUNNEY, CRS
Broker Associate
Office: 339.0400/2117
GRUBB.COM

Open Sunday 2-4

1602 Elm St., El Cerrito
This charming light-filled three bedroom home is in the ideal location. Walk to BART, bus and schools. This home offers oak hardwood floors, updated kitchen, a sunny dining room and a spacious living room with fireplace.

\$399,000

Prudential California Realty

Carol Heath-Kim
(510) 525-2346
carolheathkim.realtor.com

Real Estate Focus:

co-housing opportunity in Emeryville



WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME you moved into a neighborhood that immediately fostered community and cooperation while preserving privacy and independence? When was the last time you could move into a real community where you could share meals three times a week in a wonderful common living/kitchen area if you were tired to cook? Probably never.

The opportunity to be part of such a community comes in a loft-style unit in the Doyle Street co-housing community in Emeryville. The unit features 1,510 square feet, two large bedrooms, two baths, a spacious open kitchen/dining/living area with cherry cabinets and eating bar, 14-foot ceilings and abundant storage space. Combine this separate unit with a 2,100-square-foot common dining hall/living room, a loft, plus large workshop, hot tub, the proximity to easy commute routes and nearby shopping and restaurants, and your housing doesn't get much better.

Price: \$495,000. Homeowner dues: \$235/month.
Listing agents: Hal and Brett, Realty Advocates, 510-428-0757, www.realtyadvocates.com/5514doyle.html.

Toppoff

1 PAGE B1

et well until the end but at st minute, after her house old and I needed to empty ed a lot of things to house and to storage, it sits, boxes of dishes es, roll-top desk, vanity, and tables. use some pieces for stag that's been gratifying, old items will languish there

is because they worth something? bably not. Not, at it, according to it I've seen oniques Road Show. great to witness surprise on a son's face when he old that the ugly is vase that has in his family for is valued at 00 to \$8,000.

nd unless I make some de- to deal with them. viously I am of two minds this. On some days, I can't that I have ever let go of I have had. other times, I wish to be un- ed, especially of larger sions that are not currently - unless I think of them as tibles. to allow myself, usually guilt- to keep things that I think become more valuable day and ones I fantasize my children will want: em- ered and tatted tablecloths, if toys, doll cribs, and in children's chairs. also stashed a nearly et set of Nero Wolfe mys- only two boxes of baby es (I was good and gave the others), quilts of various Also, a number of wooden eage boards, an ivy silk pi- hawh with long fringe, and are I never use.

have used, for staging list- my vintage electric food mixer (yellow-green glass bowls and tinous-conveyor bread r from the 1930s, so I know I ght to keep them. And many other items, although they low, I would probably buy if I saw them at a garage so I must want them.

they because they are worth thing? Probably not. Not, at according to what I've seen oniques Road Show. It's great surprise on a per- face when he is told that glass vase that has been family for years is valued at 0 to \$8,000.

I had no idea," the owner of says, looking stunned. "I liked it much, but it looks good to me now." most valuable goods often to be the ones I tain't been bothered to donate ery; I would have put them

directly into the garbage. Guess I just save things I like, regardless of their value to the rest of the world. This probably makes the most sense.

Anet Toppoff and Pat Talbert can be reached at 510-653-2050 or patanet@tarpoftandtalbert.com

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Agent, Re/Max

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PIEDMONT

8 Hardwick Avenue, Piedmont
By APPOINTMENT. A very stylish central Piedmont contemporary with a level living floor plan. Beautiful well designed gourmet kitchen, marble and granite bathrooms, state-of-the-art eleven seat home theater and formal living room and dining room. This home offers four bedrooms and three full baths.

Offered at \$1,250,000

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* Some conditions apply.



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Located in Oakland this 1905 home has been converted into six loft units and is located on the top floor. Centrally located near Emeryville Hwy, on/off-ramps, and Berkeley/Oakland shopping districts, this unit has large open floor plan with its elevated sleeping level with six-light, in-unit laundry, attached garage parking + additional off-street spot and much more. Learn more on our website at www.DaveAndCarla.com or call for FREE info 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#4238



Great Piedmont Avenue Condo • \$289,000

Location, Location, Location! Wonderful condominium great building, just minutes to Piedmont Avenue or casual carpool. Fantastic floor plan, low monthly dues and a GREAT LOCATION! Visit our website at www.DaveAndCarla.com or call for FREE info 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#4205



Berkeley Victorian w/ 3 Bungalows!

\$1,230,000

This rare landmark property is one of a kind! The main house has 3+ bedrooms w/ 2 bathrooms. Soaring Victorian ceilings, 2 fireplaces and much more. Also included are 3 wonderful Spanish Med cottages and expansion potential. Surrounded by lush gardens and just minutes by foot to the Gourmet Ghetto! Learn more on our website at www.DaveAndCarla.com or call for FREE info 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#4204

San Leandro Spanish Med! • \$499,000

Great neighborhood, quiet street, level fenced in backyard, cozy fireplace, close to great shops and restaurants. Tour on our website at www.DaveAndCarla.com or call 1-800-525-3704 ID#4207



Piedmont Avenue Fully Remodeled!

Super Craftsman just minutes to Piedmont Ave. Love covered backyard, hardwood floors, great floor plan, remodeled bathrooms, large kitchen. Learn more on our website at www.DaveAndCarla.com or call for FREE info 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#4206



36 Cambridge Way, Piedmont

"Dave and Carla, Thank you for everything you did to help us sell our home. Not only did you oversee our home sale from start to finish, but you also got us \$32,000 over asking. WOW! Now we're buying a home out of the area and we sure wish you were the agents helping us!"

JIM AND SYLVIA VIVRETTE

PG&E offers customer rebates

■ Natural gas furnace (\$200 rebate).

Purchase and install an Energy Star qualified central natural gas furnace and receive a \$200 rebate from PG&E. An Energy Star qualified furnace is 15 percent more efficient than a standard furnace.

■ Energy-efficient washer (\$75 rebate):

Buy an Energy Star qualified clothes washer and receive a \$75 rebate from PG&E. Reduce your energy costs by as much as \$120 a year over a standard washer.

■ Energy-efficient dishwasher (\$50 rebate):

Buy an Energy Star qualified

See REBATES, Page B6

PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC

With natural gas prices high, customers can save on products to cut energy costs

bill for an average PG&E residential customer is 38 percent higher than this time in 2002. To combat the predicted increase in natural gas costs this winter, PG&E is offering rebates this fall on products designed to help customers reduce energy use and save money.

Rebates for residential customers include:

■ Programmable thermostat (\$20 rebate):

For several months, the U.S. Department of Energy and Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan have warned of increased natural gas prices across the country this heating season. For September, the gas

The GRUBB Co.

NEW LISTINGS



7 Huntleigh Road, Piedmont

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A private and tranquil upper Piedmont Traditional home with four bedrooms and four and one-half baths. The updated kitchen/family room opens level out to a private rear garden with pool. The large gracious living room opens to the front garden. Formal dining with verdant garden views.

Offered at \$1,695,000

KAREN STARR
OFFICE: 339.0400/224
starr@grubbc.com
GRUBBCO.COM

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Montclair Better Homes Realty

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Oct. 5th, 2-4:30PM

Nahid Nassiri
"Your Best Move"
(510) 339-4550 Direct
(510) 339-8400 Office
MONTCLAIR
Better Homes
Realty

Immaculate and very private 4 BR, 4 BA contemporary with 180 degree bay views and lush landscaping on the Piedmont side of Montclair, reportedly Clint Eastwood's family home. Many upgrades! Living room, formal dining room, family room, eat-in kitchen. Master bedroom suite on main level leads to secluded deck. Pool with deck and built-in heat lamps. Cabana offers full bath and closets, great as a pair or separate office space. Gated entry. Lots of natural light. MUST SEE!

5500 LA SALLE AVENUE, OAKLAND

Asking Price \$1,088,000

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www.NahidNassiri.com

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from left: Jasmine, Betsy, Dave, Carla, Angelo
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NEW LISTING
LINCOLN HEIGHTS

OPEN SUNDAY
 October 5th

OPEN HOURS
 1:00-5:30 PM

2814 Sylhewe Road

Prepare to fall in love! From the moment you drive into this secluded, spectacular private lot (approx 23,000), you'll feel that you've entered a Shangri-La. Built in 1928, this original cottage features 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, lovely old kitchen with breakfast nook, formal dining room, vaulted ceiling with stone fireplace in living room. Outside areas will beckon you to sit and think about days-gone-by by the outdoor fireplace with stone seating. Separate additional structures let your mind imagine all kinds of possibilities.

Offered at \$549,000

Donna Conroy 510-339-4723
 Tour at www.donnaconroy.com

The GRUBB Co.

22 Wood Court, Oakland

A stunning home with sweeping Bay views. Legal second unit included.
Offered at \$2,750,000

Anian Pettit TUNNEY, CRS
 Broker Associate
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Delightful and charming traditional on a great street in this sought-after neighborhood.
 • 4 Bedrooms • 3.5 Baths • Random Plank Floors • Huge Workshop/Storage
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 Senior Sales Associate.
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 Residence (510) 814-8148
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Offered at \$595,000

Prudential
California Realty

FEATURED HOMES

Sunday 2-5 \$1,075,000
 6970 Channing Cross, Berkeley. Fabulous 4BR, 4.5BA in Claremont Hills. Over 3,000 sq. ft.
 Rita Harrington/Ted Normart (510) 845-0211

Sunday 2-4:30 \$510,000
 4134 Harbor View, Oakland. 2BR, 2BA, good space + great views! Cross street Vale.
 Dolores Thom (510) 834-2010

Diamond District \$499,000
 Spacious 3BR, 2BA home. 1920's bungalow with 1991 2-story addition.
 Dolores Thom (510) 834-2010

Sunday 2-4 \$399,000
 2414 Hilgard, Berkeley. Stunning Spanish Style 2-story condo. 2BR, 1.5BA.
 Gaby Olander (510) 845-0211

Sunday 2-4:30 \$377,000
 1341 66th St, Berkeley. Price reduced. Berkeley starter, 2BR, 1BA.
 Henriette Lanier-Green (510) 834-2010

Oakland/Piedmont

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,250,000
 6820 Thornhill. Privacy and quality abound in 4+BR, 4BA jewel!
 Howard Converse (510) 339-9290

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$970,000
 6773 Sobrante. Totally gorgeous and new 3+BR, 2.5BA Mediterranean.
 Kriss Makris (510) 339-9290

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$609,000
 6398 Buena Ventura. Stately new construction. 4BR, 2.5BA, fppl. SF/Bay views.
 Barbara Hopper (510) 845-0211

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$608,000
 7655 Hansom. 1st open! Flexible 4BR, 2.5BA floor plan and Bay view!
 Myrtle Wong (510) 339-9290

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$499,000
 6945 Saroni. Sunny 2BR, 1BA with rumpus room and random plank floors.
 TamiBobb.com (510) 339-9290

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$479,000
 3933 Patterson. Terrific 3+BR, 1BA with beautiful guest cottage.
 MaryDresser.com (510) 339-9290

OPEN Sunday 2-4 \$379,000
 1070 61st St. Special 1912 bungalow with large separate studio.
 Roy Grigsby (510) 845-0211

Alameda

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$575,000
 1616B Fernside Blvd. Just reduced, 3BR, 2.5BA, 50' boat dock.
 Steve Ryman (510) 845-0211

Emeryville

Top Floor Corner \$389,000
 Views, 1BR, cherry hwd floor, granite counters.
 Anthony Riggins (510) 428-0900

Berkeley/Albany

OPEN Sunday 2-5 \$649,000
 707 Santa Fe, Albany. Albany schools, brand new home. High-end kitchen.
 James (510) 868-1400

OPEN Sunday 1:30-4 \$597,000
 1498 Grizzly Peak Blvd., Berkeley.
 Lisbeth Hibbard (510) 843-0956

OPEN Sunday 2-4 \$495,000
 2300 Ashby. Remodeled 3BR, 2BA, lot to develop! 2 units or artist studio.
 Nancy Platford (510) 845-0211

OPEN Sunday 2-5 \$349,000
 1541 Berkeley Way, Berkeley. Cute 1+BR, 1BA, close to U.C.
 Fatima Ali (510) 845-0211

One click.

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Get the value of your home.

Berkeley/Albany

OPEN Sunday 2-5 \$339,000
 1158 Francisco, N. Berkeley. BART fixer, old charm, nice lot.
 Jake (510) 868-1400

Contra Costa

OPEN Sunday 2-5 \$420,000
 2745 Flannery Rd., San Pablo. Lovely 3BR, 2BA in Tara Hills. New listing.
 Claudia Esteban (510) 527-9800

Hayward

OPEN Sunday 2-4 \$450,000
 28008 Sandlewood Dr. Free recorded information 24/7.
 Reina & Isabel Soto (800) 347-1356 x2607

Residential Income

OPEN Rooming House \$1,450,000
 Julia Morgan rooming house. Great income, 13BR, 5BA, stylish!
 Candice/David (510) 868-1481

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,650,000
 6242 Buena Vista, Oakland. Luxurious 4+BR 3+BA Craftsman w/views.
 Boomer/Marchesotti (510) 339-9290

OPEN Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,549,000
 5763 Scarborough, Oakland. Spectacular 4+BR, 3.5BA, new home with pano Bay view.
 Heidi Marchesotti (510) 339-9290

Residential Income

Perfect Location! Spacious 4 unit, close to BART, freeway & shopping. Remodeled. Ray Sharma (510) 527-9290

OPEN Sunday 1-5 \$925,000
 3124 Eton Ave. Vintage duplex. 2 elegant flats with stunning details in the historic Claremont District. Candice Economides/Art White (510) 868-1481

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SUPPORTING CHILD ADVOCACY: Dr. Arnold Chavez, Ed.D., Director of CASA, left and Cindy Dones, Co-Chair of the Friends of Alameda County CASA, center, accept a check from Realtor Madalyn Mitchell of Pacific Union, CASA. Realtors act as advocates for children displaced by abuse or neglect.

Mitchell challenges community on behalf of CASA program

BY BODDIE REID

CORRESPONDENT

Realtor Madalyn Mitchell of Pacific Union in Montclair offers a challenge to benefit the Alameda County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program. She recently started an advertising campaign headlined "You Can Help... Speak Up For A Child". The ads challenge others to follow Mitchell's lead and help the kids in this program.

CASA volunteers act as advocates for children who are caught up in the juvenile justice system in Alameda County. Judges legally appoint the volunteers. The intent is to prevent the children from becoming lost in the court system. The advocates can then work one on one with the children to identify their needs. The children's requirements range from emotional to educational and beyond.

CASA kids have been removed from their homes usually due to abuse or neglect. They are displaced through fault of theirs. These children become subject to decisions of judges as to their placement in group homes or foster families.

Mitchell has been a Realtor for over three years. She re-

cently joined Pacific Union in Montclair. She has been a volunteer with the CASA program for eight years. "This is very personal for me," Mitchell said. "The volunteers as well as the children benefit. An advocate can own every success along with the child."

For eight years, Mitchell mentored and advocated for a 17-year-old girl. She will graduate from high school in June 2004. Then college is the next goal. Mitchell has added to her volunteerism with her "Speak Up For A Child" ad campaign and a monetary donation plan. She contributes 4 percent of every commission check to CASA.

CASA recently held a graduation/awards ceremony for their volunteers. At the event, Mitchell presented a sizable check (with funds from her last three transactions) to the group.

Mitchell challenges others to become CASA volunteers and "speak up for a child". If it's not possible to donate time, monetary donations will also help the children. Contact her at mmitchell@pacunion.com or 510-338-1385. Contact CASA at 510-434-2500.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER.

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS



88 Perth Place, Claremont Hills

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Light-filled Claremont Hills Mediterranean home offering fine detailing with an easy-living flow. Chef's kitchen, breakfast room, family room opening to spacious view terrace, lavish master suite, elevator from the garage. Five bedrooms, three plus baths.

Offered at \$1,275,000

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Home equity: the source of homeowners' wealth

■ Paying down mortgage, cost-effective improvements, appreciation boost property value

INMAN NEWS

Homeowners are wealthier than renters, by an enormous margin, according to the 2003 State of the Nation's Housing report from Harvard University's Joint Center for Housing Studies. At the end of 2001, the median household net worth of homeowners was \$171,800 compared to only \$4,810 for renters. Home equity accounted for the huge disparity in household net worth.

Home equity is the difference between the value of a home and the liens (usually mortgages) secured against it. If you buy a \$100,000 home using a 10 percent cash down payment and a 90 percent mortgage, you have \$10,000 equity in the property.

HOUSE HUNTING TIP: One of the benefits of buying real estate is that you can buy an expensive asset with a relatively small amount of your own cash. This is called leverage. As your home increases in value over time—called appreciation—you earn appreciation on the entire property, not just on your down payment amount.

For example, if the property above were to increase 7 percent

in just one year, the property value would rise 7 percent to \$107,000. However, your equity would increase 70 percent from \$10,000 to \$17,000. This is the beauty of leverage.

However, leverage can backfire if property values drop significantly and you have to sell your home. If the value of the home above fell 7 percent, you'd be lucky to break even when you sold. The costs of sale, such as the brokerage commission, lender fees and transfer taxes, would diminish your equity, perhaps completely. In fact, you might have to contribute additional cash to close the sale.

Despite periods of deflation, single-family residences in this country have tended to appreciate over time. Over years of home ownership, home price appreciation can substantially increase your net worth. Other ways to build equity include paying down your mortgage and increasing the value of your home through cost-effective home improvements.

Some mortgages help build equity faster than others. An amortized loan is completely paid back during the loan term. A portion of each monthly payment pays the interest owed and a portion goes to paying back the amount borrowed (called principal). So if you borrow \$90,000 and it's paid back with amortized payments over 30 years, you owe the lender nothing at the end of

that time. When you pay the loan off, you'll have an additional \$90,000 equity in the property.

The shorter the term of a fully amortized mortgage, the quicker the equity build-up. You build equity faster with a 15-year amortized loan than you do with a mortgage that's amortized over 30 years.

Interest-only loans aren't amortized, so you will not build equity by making monthly payments on an interest-only mortgage. Adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs) that have payment caps can actually deplete your equity. This is called negative amortization.

Negative amortization occurs when interest rates rise and you choose to make the minimum monthly payment due. If the capped payment doesn't fully pay the amount of the interest owed, the unpaid interest is added to your principal balance. So the amount you owe on your mortgage increases rather than decreases.

Another way to deplete equity is to refinance into a larger mortgage, take the difference in the two loan amounts in cash, and spend it. Americans have been doing cash-out refinances at a record pace recently. Increased leverage has depleted homeowner's equity by about 15 percent over the past 20 years, according to Federal Reserve figures.

THE CLOSING: Letting a property fall into disrepair is another



DIAN HYMER
House Hunting

One of the benefits of buying real estate that you can buy an expensive asset with a relatively small amount of your own cash is called leverage. Your home increases in value over time, called appreciation, you earn appreciation on the entire property not just on your down payment amount.

way to diminish your equity. Selling your home well maintained helps to protect your equity.

Dian Hymer can be reached at 510-339-4777 or by e-mail at Dian@Dianhymer.com

program. Ask how you can call her at 510-338-1385.

WHAT'S WHAT?

Someone new at your office? Something special your company is doing? Changing locations or joining a seminar? Let me know to let the world know.

Send an e-mail to bierlein@mindspark.com or info to me at 510-441-7191.



Reid

FROM PAGE B5

Eva and Ron Cedillo of Preferred Real Estate Group. To reserve a spot call the hotline 209-834-2628. *Home Move-Ups*

This Berkeley workshop could be for you. "How To Buy A Home When You Already Own One" addresses making a move up purchase in this market. An explanation of bridge loans and home equity lines are given. Reservations are needed to insure copies of class materials. To secure a spot in a future workshop contact **Helen Walker** of Thornwall Properties at 510-848-2500. *Handy Classes*

The Building Education Center in Berkeley provides ongoing classes, lectures and events for the experienced and those new to remodeling and renovation. There are evening classes on weekdays and daytime classes on the weekends. For information on classes and costs call the center. Contact **Sydney** at 510-525-7610 or visit the website at bldgcenter.org.

\$5,000 CASH

Coldwell Banker Northern California launched a community wide raffle entitled "Building Dreams One Nail At A Time" as part of a fundraising drive for Habitat for Humanity. The goal is \$400,000 and the raffle tickets are \$2 each. There are more than two dozen raffle prizes with a

\$5,000 cash grand prize. The campaign runs through Oct. 10. The public is invited to participate. To buy tickets contact your local CB office or call 925-275-3085.

REALTORS WANTED

Bob Valva of Valva Realty invites Oakland real estate brokers to attend the Oakland Realtors Commercial & Industrial Brokers Committee. According to Valva the group was appointed years ago, by the Oakland mayor to facilitate city sales and leasing. The committee's purpose is to help build Oakland. The next meeting is Thursday, Oct. 9, at the OAR Auditorium on Webster. If you would like to attend call Valva at 510-451-7317.

ARPB NETWORKS

The Associated Real Property Brokers (ARPB) presents "The Dynamic Networking Breakfast", 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., Wednesday, Oct. 15. The location is Jimmie's Entertainment Complex on San Pablo, in Oakland. Real estate agents are encouraged to bring flyers and market their properties. The meeting is open forum. For more information

Loan Agent Opportunity

Sterling Mortgage seeks energetic mortgage professional for growing office. Ideal candidate is experienced in all aspects of loan origination. Training is available for licensed individuals with a real estate background. We offer office support, positive environment, and operate as both a mortgage bank and wholesale brokerage.

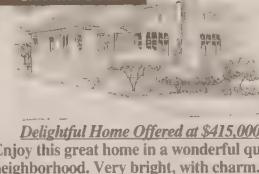
Call Peter Holmes
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Sunday
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5963 Wood Drive - Oakland

edge of Piedmont

Gracious Architect-Designed Home

Five-plus bedrooms, four-plus baths, library, swimming with cabana rooms, all in a lovely, sylvan setting of mature redwood trees. San Francisco Bay views. 3 car garage & elevator.

\$1,850,000

Lorraine Osmundson (510) 526-4566

www.MillsteinAssociates.com

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REALTORS



3 Littlewood Drive, Piedmont

A beautifully maintained four bedroom, three bath traditional on a quiet cul-de-sac.

Sold in 8 days with multiple offers!

Originally offered at \$1,095,000

Represented the Seller

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PREVIEWS
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Free Milgard Replacement Window Seminar

Replace your leaky windows before winter sets in. Homeowners and contractors are invited to a free seminar featuring Milgard replacement windows.

The seminar will be held next Saturday, Oct. 11 from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Truitt & White conference room, 1817 Second St. in Berkeley.

The Milgard Ultra Series fiberglass windows are affordable replacements for leaky wood or aluminum windows. They are attractive and durable and will add value to your home. Most people are surprised to learn how easy it is to replace old windows with new, high performance windows from Milgard.

Milgard comes in a variety of styles to enhance any architectural design and are custom made to fit the need. A Milgard representative will be on hand to review the various window styles and demonstrate proper installation.

Reservations are required and refreshments will be served. Call 510-49-2674 to reserve your space.

To pay points or not to pay points? that is the question

The ads scream at you. NO POINT LOANS . . . NO COST LOANS! Is one lender giving you a better deal than another? How does the lender (or broker) get paid if there are no "loan origination" points? The bottom line: the lower the interest rate, the higher the points you pay, called "prepaid interest." One point equals one percent of the loan amount.

So, if you are going to live in your dream house forever, and do not want to go through the refinancing process over and over, you are probably looking for the very lowest rate. The shorter the term of an amortization, the lower the interest rate and points. You can find fixed-rates for 10-, 15-, 20-, 25- and 30-year amortization.

There are some lenders who will even let you choose your own amortization: 18 years or 23 years, but only for fixed-rate mortgages. (There are even 40-year loans out there on some adjustable rate mortgages, but do you want to pay all that interest?)

Then there are no cost loans. How do they do that?

Again, it's a matter of interest rate. You have to calculate what you want (hopefully with the help of your tax accountant or financial advisor, as to just what your situation needs).

There is a tax benefit in your owner occupied home that only you and your financial advisor can determine.

They call it the "mortgage benefit," that mysterious thing that makes a \$2,000 per month payment reduce to \$1,200 per month. (Have you seen what you get for \$1200 per month in a rental property?) No

\$2,013 per month and the loan at 5.875 percent (at 2 points) would be at \$1909 per month. The question is: How many months would it take to break even?

The 2 point loan cost you \$6,450 in loan origination fees and the difference between the two payments

is \$104 per month. When you divide the loan origination fees by the difference you would find that it would take you nearly 62 months or 5.17 years to break even.

If you are planning to stay in the house, it is better to pay points.

See SENZIG, Page B8

Red Oak opens art exhibit

RED OAK REALTY

Red Oak Realty opens its next exhibit tomorrow, with a reception Saturday, Oct. 11, from 3 to 5 p.m. at its Oakland office, 2099 Pleasant Valley Ave.

The exhibit, "Close Ups on Nature in the Urban Context," features the work of Mark Rhoades, city planner who lives and works in Berkeley.

The exhibit is on display from Saturday, Oct. 4 through Thursday, Jan. 8, 2004 Monday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mark Rhoades' photographic images feature flora growing in

gardens, flower beds and out of the cracks in sidewalks and roadways. The strength of the forms and colors in the photographs belie the fragility of the flower and nature itself. In the ever expanding urban cityscape, nature struggles to maintain a presence — to remind us that we are a part of it.

Rhoades has been creating abstract photographic images for 10 years. He specializes in color photography without any digital enhancement using the interiors of flowers as his primary subject for exploring light, color and form.

To learn more call Red Oak Realty at 510-292-2000.

BERKELEY WESTBRAE HOME



OPEN SUNDAY 1-5 PM • OCTOBER 5th

1206 Kains Avenue

This two story home is ideally located close to transportation and shopping. 3 bedroom, 2 bath with many upgrades. New foundation, electrical and plumbing. New country kitchen with Wedgewood stove. Solar electric panels on roof. Hardwood floors, garage with workshop. Glass sunporch plus a small office. Fenced sunny backyard full of flowers.

Offered at \$499,000

Security Pacific Real Estate Brokerage

LOH

REALTY AND INVESTMENTS



2735 Mountaingate Way

Montclair/Piedmont Pines

Large 5BR/3BA home on a peaceful cul-de-sac. Formal dining room, updated kitchen w/ granite counters, family room & rumpus, 2 fireplaces and filtered views. Walk to Montclair schools. Over 3500 sq. ft. Must see!

\$699,000

LOH Realty and Investments
Jessica Hebert (510) 430-0549

Coming Soon
in Redwood Heights!



Really settle down in this warm 1930's 2+bedroom, 2 bath light filled home. Formal dining room, beautiful remodeled kitchen with granite counters and bar, comfortable rumpus room with fireplace, 2-car garage with interior access. Level yard. Near SF bus.

Offered at \$535,000



Bob Nelson
(510) 338-1345



Carolyn Nelson
(510) 338-1345

New Listing in the Laurel District!
OPEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2-5PM



3966 Norton Avenue, Oakland

This bright, charming, split-level Mediterranean home features 2+BR/2BA, hardwood floors, arches, a formal dining room and breakfast room. You'll love the nice yards and covered patio for gardening or just relaxing.

Offered at \$529,000

Vicki Woodhead
SENIOR SALES ASSOCIATE
(510) 338-1334

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KORMAN & NG

real estate services

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Panoramic Bay View!

8360 Terrace Drive, El Cerrito



OPEN SUNDAY
Oct. 5th & 12th
2:00 - 4:30 p.m.

- 3 Bedrooms
- 2 Baths

Contact Miriam Ng
(510) 845-8326

You will enjoy this light filled contemporary shingled home with spacious living and dining rooms and updated kitchen. Expand your entertaining space to the patio off the dining room. Master bedroom suite with dressing room & great closet space. Lower level 2 bedrooms and bath for office or teenage hideaway.

Offered at: \$598,000

For more details, go to www.kormanandng.com

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Solano Avenue Neighborhood!
OPEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2-4PM



927 Evelyn Avenue, Albany

This sun-filled California Bungalow, with gleaming oak & fir floors, and built-ins in the living & dining rooms, has the added benefit of a stylishly updated kitchen and bath! A rear deck leads down to the charming brick patio and a sweet garden with fruit trees! Don't miss the proximity to Solano Avenue's shops and cafes, and Albany's Public Library & Community Center is just down the block!

Offered at \$475,000

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www.BankofAlameda.com



Apartment sales remain strong

BY DAVID KUCHENTHAL
CHIROPRACTIC

ties have definitely softened in the last 12 months.

Condition. The sale of any property is directly related to the condition of the roof, the water areas such as the bathrooms and the kitchen, the exterior paint, the interior paint and carpets, etc. Many owners take great pride in maintaining their property.

They know that it is easier to do repairs on a consistent basis, keep the landscaping maintained, and have periodic inspections by professionals. The electrical service, the exterior eves and gutters, the stairways, etc. have a direct liability to all owners. The things you see and the things you cannot see must be addressed. Many owners steer clear of their building because they do not want to deal with small problems, repairs, and complaints from their tenants. An investor I know, "TK," told me many years ago (and I follow this advice) is that I must

More properties are coming on the market these days because of needs of 1031 tax-deferred exchange investors.

Many investors choose to sell their least desirable properties in their portfolio, buy up for tax shelter, and purchase units that are less management intensive.

Lower Interest Rates. Interest rates in 2003 increased June through August. This year the month of September has been gentle with a decrease of over 400 basis points on the 10-year bond that

There is no clear direction in the financial marketplace that gives investors a positive path to follow. The lower income interest rates on cash do investors little good. The income property market with its lower mortgage interest rates creates lower monthly debt service, which translates to higher cashflows, exactly what investors are striving to achieve.

dictates the interest rates of the 30-year mortgage.

There is no clear direction in the financial marketplace that gives investors a positive path to follow. The lower income interest rates on cash do investors little good. The income property market with its lower mortgage interest rates creates lower monthly debt service, which translates to higher cashflows, exactly what investors are striving to achieve.

Higher Interest Rates. When interest rates increased between June and August 2003 many of the first-time buyers began to withdraw from the market. This is a positive for the investor. The higher the mortgage interest rates climb the fewer the number of buyers.

This helps give some stability in the rental values that are charged for multi-family dwellings. When the first-time buyer begins to be priced out of the market the demand for rentals continue.

Sale Location. The high demand areas such as Albany, El Cerrito, Richmond Annex, and many others are selling. Prime areas are still pulling top dollar and are receiving multiple offers. The rents in these areas are either softening, or remaining at their rental level.

Once again, quality rentals in desirable areas with many amenities close to transportation linkages are doing well. The smaller units, in less desirable areas, with fewer amenities

walk my property at least two times a month. Small problems can often become large ones. This is directly related to the cost at the time of sale.

Peeling paint can permit water to enter the wood and that can cause rot, and even leakage problems. If you keep your property in good repair it makes it easier to maximize the demand from a prospective buyer and your sale price.

Buy-Up Problems. As rents increased over the last five years and the demand from buyers to buy income property has skyrocketed the GAP continues to be the larger multi-unit complexes. The investor who has owned the property for a long period eventually runs out of depreciation, or shelter.

This investor who has a huge equity and needs to exchange into a larger property has been left wanting over the last four years. There are more properties coming on the market today but not the number of eight- to 36-unit properties needed to fill the demand of the move-up investor/buyer.

Between January 2000 and June 2003 it has been very hard for an investor to sell for there were very few move-up/exchange properties to buy. This resulted in fewer properties to buy, and an unbelievable demand for units.

See APARTMENTS, Page B9

Hyperbole, glitz brochures part of home-selling pitch

BY JOHN BOUDREAU
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

A three-bedroom house, the flier insists, has a "gracious foyer" that "invites you to charming living."

"Impossible" announces a glossy eight-page brochure for an \$11 million Orange County home that was sold in early 2002. A model in a white bikini experiences a perfect moment in a pool overlooking the ocean.

Then there's the Danielle Steele approach: "Meandering garden paths invite contemplative wanderers to discover the richly varied foliage and sylvan moods of the serene bucolic setting, and to pause on the enchanting hand-crafted stone bridge that arches over a seasonal brook," reads one flier for a "Mediterranean villa" in the Redwood City hills that sold for \$1.8 million in 2000. There are myriad ways to say "For Sale."

Take some facts and wrap them in breathless prose, add a dash of hyperbole and some photographs, and you have a real estate brochure — quintessential American salesmanship.

"Americans love exaggeration," said Alan Dundes, a University of California at Berkeley anthropology professor. "This is the modern adaptation of the tall tale: 'You've got to see this house to believe it!'"

To be sure, real estate agents are careful not to distort the truth, which could land them in legal trouble. It's more like getting ready for a first date: Highlight the curves and muscles you like most and try to hide the blemishes.

"You are selling a mood," said Paula Ansara-Wilhelm, vice president of Strada Properties in Newport Beach and the creator of the "Impossible" bikini brochure. "It's a very emotional thing and you want to tap into that."

Fliers come in various shapes and levels of originality and qual-

ity. Some boldly announce the asking price; others, particularly those advertising high-end homes, demure with a simple "Price upon request."

A good real estate flier is something of a forget-me-not. Homebuyers pore over brochures after trudging through countless homes that become a blur.

Not until the early 1980s did these fliers become a mainstay of the industry, pushed on by the proliferation of copy machines, which made printing relatively inexpensive, recalled Saul Klein, a licensed broker who co-founded InternetCrusade, a real estate technology consultant.

These days, agents try to outdo each other. They use desktop publishing software and digital photography. They hire marketing companies to prepare elegant-looking brochures. Increasingly, agents are posting fliers on the Internet.

Strada Properties is starting to mail interactive CDs with its 200 or so property listings to 35,000

homes in Orange County every month. Ansara-Wilhelm doesn't blink at spending \$12,000 to produce brochures for homes selling in the \$10 million range.

"You are definitely selling the image, the lifestyle, the fantasy," Ansara-Wilhelm said.

Just two decades ago, Klein was pounding out his fliers on a "high-tech" IBM Selectric typewriter that allowed him to use several fonts. Then he'd rush to the copy machine. "They'd come out loised."

Some fliers today still have that look, and buyers take notice.

"Nowadays, it's pretty stupid to end out anything that's not a digital picture," said financial planner Eric Heckman, who bought an \$807,000 home in Nags Park in San Jose last year. Not doing so, he said, "looks cheap and cheesy. Can't you take a little time?"

Real estate agents can be even more critical.

"Garbage, total garbage," sniffed Therese Swan, an agent

with Alain Pinel Realtors in Gatos referring to the lowbrow brochures to which buyers often subjected. Her company believes it sets the standard for brochures, with their reserved straightforward narrative and simple photographs.

"Looking at a flier is like looking at how a person dresses a reflection," said Jeff Barnett, vice president of Alain Pinel in Los Gatos, wearing a crisp gray shirt and headset and behind a black desk with masonry artwork on the wall behind him. "It's the first appeal. It's everything."

Misspelled words are like fee stains on your shirt. And there are fliers that list an incorrect address. "There is the way and the wrong way," said Barnett, sounding like a professor lecturing a freshman remedial English class.

And don't get him started about brochures with the list price crossed out and the new one scrawled in, a common these days.

"It's like giving a business card with their number crossed out," Barnett said. "It shows of cheapness."

Dennis Moreno of MGM Estate in Sunnyvale avoids "Martha Stewart-type language," he said. His fliers are tidy and basic — photographs glued

See HYPERBOLE, Page B10

Hyperbolic buzzwords

■ Real estate agents often use code words to describe a property they are selling

■ Cozy: It's small.

■ Charmer: Alas, this is small, too.

■ Cottage: Hope you don't have too many furnishings for this cozy and charming — but small — home.

■ Step-saver kitchen: Small. But that's an advantage, right?

■ Location, location, location: This house probably isn't a dream castle, but it's smack dab in a desirable neighborhood and/or school district.

■ Great curb appeal: It'll be love at first sight.

■ Original condition: The home has never been touched and, in fact, could be a tear-down.

■ Fifty years young: The house has been around the block a few decades.

■ Fixer-upper: Better be handy with tools, or have very good friends who are.

■ Close to freeway: The street in front of this home could very well be a freeway.

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Agent: Bo Max

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October 5 & 12, 2-4 pm



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Classic salt-box Mendocino-style, 2 bedrooms each, modern fixer! Needs updating. AS-IS.

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510.334.6007

1891 Solano Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94707

Coming Soon in Claremont Pines!

This sophisticated and updated all-level home is great for entertaining with beautiful gardens and surrounds a large private patio with views of the bay, Mt. Tamalpais and 4th Fairway.

Offered at \$995,000



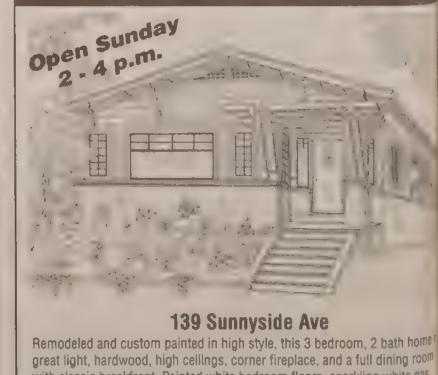
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New in Piedmont



139 Sunnyside Ave

Remodeled and custom painted in high style, this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home great light, hardwood, high ceilings, corner fireplace, and a full dining room with classic breakfast. Painted white bedroom floors, sparkling white gas kitchen and elegant light fixtures and chandeliers create understated elegance. The rear deck overlooks a yard with flowering trees and room for play. W/ car driveway parking, storage, a usable basement and W/D hook-ups, it's perfect for a smiling new owner. \$699,000

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www.hillco.com

Soni Goodman
Phone: 415.321.4261

Email: goodman@hillco.com

JUST LISTED!

OPEN SUNDAY 2-5

926 Rosemount Road, Oakland

Enjoy the sylvan setting from this sun-lit Crocker Highlands Traditional. This 1927 home offers an exquisite fireplace, crown moldings, hardwood floors, lovely banisters, charming window seat, vintage chandelier & more. Entertain or recharge on the updated 2001 private patio/backyard or relax in the front garden while enjoying the lovely vista. 3BR/2.25BA.

Offered at \$599,000

Ruby Ng, CRS

510 339-4779

rubyn.com

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

COLDWELL BANKER

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

66 Alvarado Road, Berkeley

Open Sunday 2-4:30. This stylish & sophisticated five bedroom, four bath traditional

has been tastefully renovated throughout. The large and private fenced corner lot

encompasses magical gardens and enclosed patios, ideal for entertaining.

Offered at \$1,495,000

KAREN STARR

OFFICE: 339.0400/224

starr@grubbc.com

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New Listing!

OPEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5TH 2-4:30PM

3149 Lewiston Avenue, Berkeley

It doesn't get any better than this! Spectacular shingle duplex, great street in Berkeley! \$1,100,000

Nancy Rothman

(510) 339-2169 ext. 209

nrothman@pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate Services

Apartments

FROM PAGE B8

Reverse exchange. Not long ago the IRS solidified the rules for a reverse exchange. There is another move that investors have been using to stimulate the income property market. A reverse exchange is most as simple as a standard 1031 tax-deferred exchange.

First you find the move-up property that you want to buy. You buy that property in conjunction with a qualified intermediary (third party), and close escrow with a reverse exchange agreement. You then put the sale property, properties that you intend on selling on the market.

Then you sell the sale properties and close escrow with your qualified intermediary and an exchange agreement, and you are finished. It is pretty simple but there are a lot of twists that make it a large money game. A reverse exchange may cost 4 to 6 times as much as a standard exchange. This means \$2,800 to \$3,600 more cost, or more.

You must close escrow and complete your exchange with 180 days of the close of escrow of the purchase/ replacement property. You must generate the cash to buy and close escrow on the purchase/replacement property by using your own liquid cash, borrowing against a property, etc., which may mean you need hun-

dreds of thousands of dollars to begin a reverse exchange.

Start with a Professional. See your accountant, qualify your Realtor, get acquainted with a qualified intermediary, and your sale and purchase will be a breeze.

David Kuchenthal is an Income Property Specialist with Security Pacific Real Estate, call 510-662-8535, or e-mail at DavidK@IncomeUnits.com.

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Offered at \$729,000 as is
4+ bedrooms, 3 baths, with lower level teenager suite
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REALTORS

940 Alma Place, Oakland

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A wonderful home that is level in and features three plus bedrooms including a master suite, two bathrooms, a large living room with fireplace, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors, level garden and garage with interior access.

Offered at \$579,000



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You can in Orinda and the Orinda BART station is only 5 minutes further than the Rockridge BART station. I was a Rockridge resident for 10 years and I can give you honest answers about the pluses and minuses of a move to Lamorinda for the excellent public schools.

2 THEATRE SQUARE, ORINDA

Search for homes at www.apr.com

MAISON NOUVEAU
2823 Ashby Ave
\$885,000

This 1900+ architectural gem is a classic hybrid of Arts & Craftsman and more traditional styles, reflecting the taste of a turn-of-the-century builder of quality.

Additional details including built-in hall, Living room

www.MaisonNouveauRealty.com

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2%
Commission

This week's Open Home Guide starts on B18.

6773 Sobrante



Offered at \$970,000

Open Sunday 2-4:30

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www.berkhills.com

View Photo Tours on the Web

336 Panoramic Way, Berkeley

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30

Perched on a large parcel of land on historic Panoramic Hill, sits this stylish, romantic, updated Wurster w/spectacular views of the SF Bay. Open floor plan with expansive patio off living room perfect for entertaining. Oversized Philippine mahogany doors & glass doors, master suite, 5 generous bdrms, lots of closets & built-ins, 3.5 baths. In addition, 2-bdrm, 2-bath pied-a-terre w/interior access. 2-car garage, ample offstreet parking, minutes to UCB.

Denise Milburn 524-9888 x35 \$1,900,000

954 Keeler Ave., Berkeley

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

New Listing! Come discover this distinctive Mediterranean home high in the North Berkeley hills! This inviting, romantic home features 5 bdrms, 2 baths, a beautiful living rm w/soaring, vaulted ceilings & panoramic Bay views. The modernized kitchen has granite counters, custom cherry wood cabinets & appliances for the serious cook. Classic, original, architecturally-designed details & fixtures can be seen in this special home built in 1934.

Teresé Ashman 524-9888 x11 \$975,000

682 Creston Rd., Berkeley

By Appointment

Price Reduced! Quality view home in the North Berkeley hills! Enjoy spectacular Golden Gate & S.F. views from this well-maintained, spacious home. Flexible floor plan for easy living, working at home & entertaining. Excellent indoor/outdoor, large living rm & dining rm, spacious family rm, 3 bdrms/3 baths, hwd floors, 2 frpls, & a double garage.

Maya Trilling 524-9888 x18 \$799,000

1018 Keith Ave., Berkeley

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

New Listing! Well-loved, bright, spacious home. Lovely redwood-framed view, 4 bdrms/3+ baths, large living room with adjoining study. Formal dining room, family room & space for storage or development, sunny garden. Bus to BART at the corner.

Barbara Conheim 524-9888 x28 \$615,000

1068 Ordway Street, Albany

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

New Listing! Elegant 2 bdrm with a spacious living room/dining area. Fireplace, hwd floors. Fabulous, remodeled eat-in kitchen with Corian counters. French doors to deck and yard from both the kitchen and the master bedroom.

Jane Allen 524-9888 x23 \$545,000

1655 Scenic, Berkeley

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

Gorgeous Mediterranean condo w/sun-filled rooms! Architectural details in large living room w/fireplace, formal dining room, spacious kitchen, 2 bdrms/1.5 baths. Feels like a home with indoor entrance from private garage & large basement. Excellent location near U.C. & all the amenities of North Berkeley.

Bill & Tracy 524-9888 x33 \$515,000

4293 Whittle, Oakland

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

New Price! A cul-de-sac hideaway just a few blocks from shops and freeway access in the Upper Dimond neighborhood of Oakland. This charming 2+ bdrm, 1 bath plus au-pair offers a flexible floor plan and a backyard to delight the most avid gardener.

Jane Brunswick 524-9888 x12 \$499,000

441 - 44th St., Oakland

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30

A spacious, handsome, updated 2+ bdrm Craftsman in excellent condition with a wonderful sense of privacy. Set back from the neighboring houses, it sits on a large lot. It has warm wood trim, built-ins, good light, front and back porches, and a sunny, private backyard.

Norah Brower 524-9888 x26 \$469,000

1217 Channing Way, Berkeley

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30

New Listing! Gorgeous Craftsman bungalow, spacious, well-proportioned rooms. Living room w/bay window & built-ins, formal dining rm w/built-in buffet. Spacious kitchen w/laundry area & breakfast nook. 1 bdrm/1 bath. Large backyard w/garage & "studio", freshly painted & hardwood floors redone.

Maya Trilling 524-9888 x18 \$315,000

"Your quality of service and attention to detail amazed us. Thanks for everything."

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Prudential, Chase announce partnership

■ Prudential California Realty and Chase Ventures Holdings, Inc. form major alliance

PRUDENTIAL CALIFORNIA REALTY

The Home Loan Group, the in-house mortgage subsidiary of Prudential California Realty, Prudential Nevada Realty, and Prudential Texas Properties, announced a strategic alliance with Chase Ventures Holdings, Inc., a Chase affiliate. This affiliation forms The Home Loan Group, L.P. This partnership joins two trusted and proven industry leaders who are poised for growth across the Western United States.

The alliance creates one of the largest real estate and mortgage joint ventures of its kind. It will provide customers with the benefits of full service professional real estate services, as well as the benefit of mortgage services, with a dedicated team to see the transaction through from origination to closing.

"This is one of the largest alliances between a national broker-

age firm and a lender. It gives THLG and our real estate companies the ability to offer easier and better access to home financing," said Ed Krafchow, president of the tri-state consortium of Prudential California Realty, Prudential Nevada Realty, and Prudential Texas Properties.

"This alliance positions us for phenomenal growth and ease of doing business."

Both Prudential California Realty and Chase share core commitments to growth and development of superior customer service and an exceptional experience to customers," said Jim Panepinto, president and CEO of Chase Ventures Holdings Inc.

"The alliance joins two powerful, recognized, and trusted brands who will be able to help more families achieve homeownership by simplifying the home buying process."

Presidio Merchant Partners facilitated the alliance. They acted as financial advisors to THLG and Prudential. The alliance allows loan officers and real estate agents to enhance the services they provide to

This alliance positions us for phenomenal growth and ease of doing business.

Ed Krafchow

the consumer with greater consistency, expedited processing and superior customer service, according to Panepinto.

"Today's consumers want convenience, simplicity and good service. They are more likely to shop somewhere where integrated services under one roof provide them with these benefits," said Steve Murray, real estate industry analyst and editor of RealTrends magazine.

"The joint efforts of two respected names like Prudential California Realty and Chase coming together will positively impact the satisfaction of housing consumers."

Under the alliance, THLG will offer a full array of programs along with additional products from multiple lending services.

Contact the real estate editor at 510-748-1655 or e-mail devanosky@cctimes.com.

Advertisers: To be considered for the Real Estate Spotlight (front cover box) e-mail text and photo to: hillsrefeaturehome@cctimes.com

Hyperbole

FROM PAGE B8

on sheets with just the facts: "Large front porch. Hardwood floors. Remodeled kitchen."

"Some have a lot of fluff words," Moreno said. "They go on like they are describing a Thomas Kinkade painting."

Georgie Huff and Nathan Norberg with Capital Properties in downtown San Jose say they try to strike a balance between no-

nonsense fluff and those that look as though they cost as much as a bathroom addition.

Indeed, agent-photographer Norberg has a knack for capturing a home's warmth — or at least visually creating it with lighting.

In a brochure Huff wrote for the Woodside estate of "coffee king" James A. Folger in the 1990s, she wrote: "The home is designed for genteel country living with an unusual blend of formal grounds and whimsical trelises twined with wisteria."

For every house she lists, commissions an original pen drawing of the property, which used for postcards advertising open house. She gives the drawing as a gift to the buyer.

"I didn't buy it for brochure," said Shayne Fulton, 39-year-old accounting manager who purchased a 1924 Tudor-style home in Naglee Park for \$500,000 last year in which he represented the seller. "But it drew me in."

And he framed the artwork.

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REALTORS

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1650 Trestle Glen Road

Originally offered at \$875,000



JUDITH CHASE CAIN
OFFICE: 339.0400/209
GRUBB CO. COM

RECENTLY SOLD!

100 Greenwood Avenue

Originally offered at \$699,000



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Lincoln Heights NEW LISTING

OPEN SUNDAY
October 5th



2800 Silhouette Road

Just a small home that's a perfect cozy place to call home. Only 1 bedroom and 1 bath, it sits on a beautiful large piece of land (approx. 12,000) with mature trees and landscaping and a creek running through. The kitchen and bath are updated, the floors are wood, there's a large stone fireplace, and a big picture window in the living room even boasts a South Bay view. Just a little treasure tucked away in the hills!

Offered at \$299,000

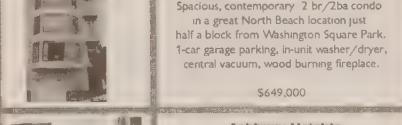
Donna Conroy 510-339-4723

Tour at www.donnaconroy.com

OPEN HOUR
10:00-5:00 PM

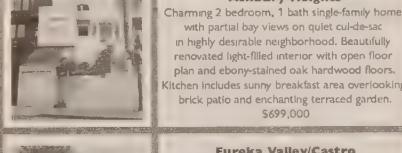
COLDWELL
BANKER

A sampling of our current listings:



Telegraph Hill/North Beach
Spacious, contemporary 2 br/2ba condo in a great North Beach location just half a block from Washington Square Park. 1-car garage parking, in-unit washer/dryer, central vacuum, wood burning fireplace.

\$649,000



Ashbury Heights
Charming 2 bedroom, 1 bath single-family home with partial bay views on quiet cul-de-sac in highly desirable neighborhood. Beautifully renovated light-filled interior with open floor plan and ebony-stained oak hardwood floors. Kitchen includes sunny breakfast area overlooking brick patio and enchanting terraced garden.

\$699,000



Eureka Valley/Castro
Terrific top floor end unit condo with an excellent floor plan located in the quiet rear of the complex with south views of the hills above the Castro and just steps from shopping, night life and transportation. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, formal dining room, wood burning fireplace, 1 car garage parking.

\$459,000



**2241 Market St
San Francisco**
Terrific top floor end unit condo with an excellent floor plan located in the quiet rear of the complex with south views of the hills above the Castro and just steps from shopping, night life and transportation. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, formal dining room, wood burning fireplace, 1 car garage parking.

2200 Union St
San Francisco

415-762-9399



**3219 NEWTON AVENUE
China Hill**
Vintage duplex with beautiful 2BD/1BA owners unit. Original details abound, reflecting much love & care. Upstairs 1BD/1BA is sunny & bright! Large basement, 2-car garage. Close to Lake Merritt & many shops & restaurants. Heidi Tugge 531-7000 x286

\$199,000



**3242 STATION AVENUE #203
Adams Point**
1BD/1BA fresh interior paint, carpet, vinyl & new appliances. Great location, near bus, BART & casual car-pooling. Theatre, restaurants, & easy freeway access. Patsy Buhler 531-7000 x238

\$199,000



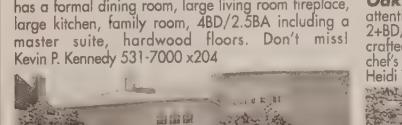
**3300 COLUMBIAN
Oakland Foothills**
Superb craftsmanship & great attention to detail make this exquisitely remodeled 2+BD/2BA home a stand out. A handsome 4pc, finely crafted built-ins, gleaming hrdwd. flrs. & a fabulous chef's kitchen. Large deck, some view & lovely garden. Heidi Tugge 531-7000 x286

\$399,000



**362 FAIRMOUNT AVENUE
Adams Point**
Urban Oasis! Minutes from downtown, a classic 20's home and much more. 2BD/1BA with spacious plus room & converted garage, it meets all your space needs. Updated kitchen, tranquil yard, move-in condition. Stan Hammond 531-7000 x246

\$399,000



**825 CALMAR AVENUE
Crocker Highlands**
Wonderful new Georgian circa 1919 designed by master architect Charles McCall. Spacious formal rooms, 4BD/3.5BA. Convenient to Lakeshore shopping & transportation. Katie Meadow 531-7000 x228

\$879,000



**647 CALDWELL ROAD
Montclair**
Newer traditionally styled home in the popular Pinewood area of Montclair. 4BD all on one floor, 2.5BA, formal din. rm., family room. Level in with large backyard. Wendy Callaghan 531-7000 x237

\$789,000



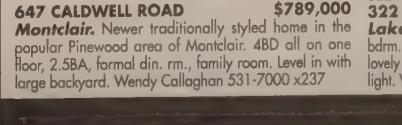
**322 HANOVER AVENUE #310
Lake Merritt**
2BD/2BA spacious unit with master bdrm. suite. New appliances, carpet, vinyl & fresh paint, lovely deck with access from living room, plenty of closets & light. Washer & dryer in unit. Patsy Buhler 531-7000 x238

\$310,000



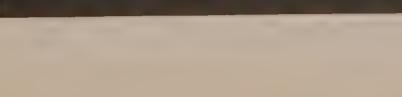
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WEEKLY SALES

ALMEDA

1320 9th St - \$460,000
1050 Armitage St - \$580,000
1616 Buena Vista Av - \$350,000
2026 Buena Vista Av - \$525,000
3413 Catalina Av - \$426,000
12 Chilmark Ln - \$770,000
2830 Clay St - \$755,000
1816 Grand St - \$420,000

2847 Johnson Av - \$775,000
1556 Mozart St - \$448,000
185 Parfait Ln - \$560,000
1045 Santa Clara Av - \$740,000
1001 Shoreline 05 - \$389,000

BERKELEY

2118 10th St - \$550,000
1516 7th St - \$404,000
1524 7th St - \$424,000

ALBANY

1048 Curtis St - \$549,000
555 Pierce St #1141 - \$290,000

See SALES, Page B13

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6281 Broadway Terrace

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UPPER ROCKRIDGE. NEEDS TLC.
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6969 Snake Road

Unique, fabulous custom home. 3BR, 2BA,
1/4 acre, decks, gardens, wet bar,
master suite, sauna and more.

\$769,000

House hunting this weekend? Don't miss
this week's Open Home Guide on B18.

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Home is Worth On-Line
visit:
www.PiedmontHomeValue.com

Value Home

You can help...
speak up for a child



For the last 7 years, I have been working with the

Alameda County CASA program

(Court Appointed Special Advocates)

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advocates for children who are in foster placements or
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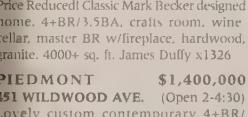
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COLDWELL
BANKER

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,589,000
5499 GOLDEN GATE AVE. (Open 2-5)
Price Reduced! Classic Mark Becker designed
home. 4+BR/3.5BA, crafts room, wine
cellar, master BR w/fireplace, hardwood,
granite, 4000+ sq. ft. James Dally x1326

PIEDMONT \$1,400,000
451 WILLOWDALE AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
Lovely custom contemporary 4+BR/
4BA w/space & privacy. Walls of glass,
brick courtyard, eat-in kit. Rose
Woods x1324

OAKLAND HILLS \$1,055,000
601 VIA RIALTO (Open 2-4:30)
One of 10 homes under construction on
a cul-de-sac w/SF & Bay views. 4BR/3BA.
Custom touches in every home: designer
bath, gourmet kit. David Ichikawa x1331

MONTCLAIR \$829,000
6982 BROADWAY TERR. (Open 2-4:30)
Warm & inviting 5 year old contemporary,
3+BR/2.5BA, family room, open split-level
floor plan. Close to Montclair Village.
Michelle Miller x1335

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$799,000
5668 BUENA VISTA AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
Very attractive chic level-in contemporary
in great area! 3+BR/2+BA, library w/
GG view, Italian tile floors. Dee
Knowland x1318

ROCKRIDGE \$775,000
321 GLENDALE AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
Stately 3+BR/2BA prairie style w/bright,
spacious rooms. Beautiful architectural
details. Kitchen opens to lush flower
garden. Quasi in-law. Ashley O'Neill x1368

MONTCLAIR \$669,000
6133 ASCOT DR. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Glorious SF, GG/Bay Bridge
& Lake Merritt views! 4BR/4.5BA, living
room w/soaring ceilings, family room, loft,
expansion potential. Robyn Mohr x1310

MONTCLAIR \$655,000
9359 SKYLINE BLVD. (Open 2-4:30)
One owner contemporary w/level-in property
& garden off family room. SF Bay view,
3BR/2.5BA, kit/lam rm combo. Wendy
Gardner Ferrari x1303

KENSINGTON \$625,000
29 HIGHGATE RD. (Open 2-5)
Handsome 1949 custom contemporary
w/great privacy & potential in a wonderful
wood setting. 2+BR/2BA. Views. SeeMore@pacunion.com. Gini Erci x1339

ALAMEDA \$479,000
2901 MADISON ST. (Open 2-4:30)
3BR/1.5BA, approx. 1172 sq. ft. 1922
Bungalow w/formal living and dining
room, sunny eat-in kitchen, large
basement. Fritz Hochfellner x1348

PACIFIC UNION \$379,000
4364 HOWE ST. (Open 2-4:30)
2BR/1BA, cozy 1909 cottage. Large kitchen,
lots of light & a great deck overlooking
large backyard. Fresh paint & new floor
coverings. Joan Dark x1316

FRUITVALE \$285,000
1506 26TH AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
Charming split-level 1930's traditional,
2BR/1BA. Oak plank floors, grand corner
fireplace & period chandelier. Good condition.
Quiet street. Steven Biasatti x1379

PIEDMONT AVE \$379,000
4364 HOWE ST. (Open 2-4:30)
2BR/1BA, cozy 1909 cottage. Large kitchen,
lots of light & a great deck overlooking
large backyard. Fresh paint & new floor
coverings. Joan Dark x1316

REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$535,000
1930's charm, 2+BR/2BA home w/
formal dining room, fabulous kitchen
remodel, rumpus room, two car garage &
yard. Near SF bus. Bob & Carolyn
Nelson x1345

CLAREMONT PINES \$995,000
Sophisticated & updated all-level home
w/gardens & patio. Views of the bay.
Mt. Tamalpais & 4th Fairway. Ashley
O'Neill x1368

REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$535,000
1930's charm, 2+BR/2BA home w/
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Nelson x1345

CLAREMONT HILLS \$1,395,000
Stunning & stylish 4BR/3.5BA contemporary
by Phil Perkins in 2000. Wonderful floorplan,
soaring ceilings, exceptional finishes. Dee
Knowland x1318

EMERYVILLE \$1,250,000
Luxury condo w/sweeping views! Designed
for the owners by the developers. 1-car
private gar & parking space for 5th car. 3BR/
3BA. Very unique! Helen Danhakl x1336

MONTCLAIR \$949,000
Stunning newer home w/impeccable
interior finishes & enchanting outdoor
rooms. 3BR/2.5BA & 2 family rooms
Nancy Moore x1302

LINCOLN HEIGHTS \$795,000
Level-in Bay view rancher! Wheelchair &
disabled accessible. 3-BR/3BA, dining rm,
eat-in kit. Indoor "Endless Current" lap pool.
Jeffrey Himmel x1307

OAKLAND HILLS \$329,000
All-level bungalow w/3BR/1BA,
hardwood floors. Built in 1940 for
present owner. Big backyard & detached
garage. Kathy Flynn x1317

CLAREMONT HILLS \$1,850,000
The Rees House. Rich architectural detail
glowing redwood walls & beams & a cook's
kitchen/great room with a large leafy site
SeeMore@pacunion.com. Gini Erci x1339

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Stunning & stylish 4BR/3.5BA contemporary
by Phil Perkins in 2000. Wonderful floorplan,
soaring ceilings, exceptional finishes. Dee
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CLAREMONT HILLS \$1,395,000
Stunning & stylish 4BR/3.5

Open Sunday, October 5th, 2-4:30



1131 Oakland Avenue, Piedmont
Offered at \$975,000

You'll enjoy living in this large traditional home! It has a formal dining room, large living room with a fireplace, family room, a large kitchen and four bedrooms, two and a half bathrooms — including a master suite. Hardwood floors throughout.

Kevin P. Kennedy, Realtor

510.531.7000 x204

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REALTORS



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LISTINGS



615 Spruce Street, Berkeley

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Stunning Mediterranean with big Bay views and fabulous design details. Master suite with coffered ceiling opens to a private patio. Formal dining room to compliment cook's kitchen. Three bedrooms and two baths, plus a huge media room, office/studio space and half bath downstairs.

Offered at \$949,000

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OFFICE: 339.0400/333

tswift@grubbco.com

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PINOLE
822 Antonia Circle \$469,000
Spacious "better than new" 4 bedroom, 3 bath home perfectly maintained and nicely upgraded by original owners. Light & airy, vaulted ceilings, master suite, fireplace, peaceful backyard. Excellent cul-de-sac location. Walking distance to Old Town Pinole!

Open Sunday 1-4
Lloyd Jung 559-2912



EL CERRITO
2053 Junction \$389,000
Fresh, attractive home with Bay views. Small deck off dining room catches Bay breezes. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. 2 rooms downstairs waiting to be finished. Large backyard, spacious sparkling eat-in kitchen. Close to Del Norte BART.

Open Sunday 2-4
Joan Underwood 559-2911



PINOLE
3386 Diablo Circle \$489,900
Great house for your family in the finest neighborhood. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, over 2100 sq. ft. Excellent floor plan, updated kitchen with large breakfast area. Living room with cathedral ceilings, spacious backyard, 2-car garage.

Open Sunday 2-4
Olga Stepanyan 559-2921



EL SOBRANTE
3605 May Road \$419,000
Peaceful El Sobrante Hills Location. Sunny three bedroom, two bath home with family room. Large backyard with many mature trees

Open Sunday 2-4
Tom Modic 292-3052



EL CERRITO
7127 Eureka Avenue \$385,000
Sunny, large 2 bedroom, 1 updated bath home. Quiet creekside setting. Fireplace, remodeled kitchen & hardwood floors throughout. Large corner lot, and attached 1-car garage. Must see!

Open Sunday 2-4
Jean Shrem 559-2912
Marni Fischer 559-2912



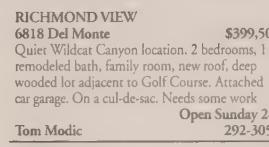
EL CERRITO
905 Balra Drive \$399,000
Adorable 1920s cottage nestled on a wood lot approx. 16,000 sq. ft. Unusual and interesting floor plan, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Beautiful hardwood and tile floors, formal dining room with lovely built-ins. Kensington Hilltop School district.

Open Sunday 2-4
Mary Gray 559-2939
Mykah Larkins 559-2901



ALBANY
1230 Portland \$559,000
Joyful Style! Enjoy life to the fullest in this wonderful enlarged Albany home. 3+ bedrooms, 3 full baths (one with Jacuzzi), and lots of fun spaces, from the "great room" to the charmingly landscaped yard. Quirky touches enhance the ambiance & are guaranteed to make you smile!

Open Sunday 2-4
Juliana Wynberg 527-2700x31



RICHMOND VIEW
6818 Del Monte \$399,500
Quiet Wildcat Canyon location. 2 bedrooms, 1 remodeled bath, family room, new roof, deep wooded lot adjacent to Golf Course. Attached 1-car garage. On a cul-de-sac. Needs some work

Open Sunday 2-4
Tom Modic 292-3052



EL SOBRANTE
407 Del Valle Circle \$225,000
Lovely 2 bedroom townhome, quiet setting to drive to Orinda BART station. 2 assigned spaces

Open Sunday 2-4
Darrell Hoh 292-3052

1577 Solano Ave., Berkeley
(510) 527-2700

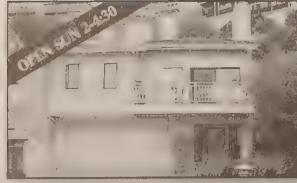
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289 Arlington Ave., Kensington
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HILLER HIGHLANDS \$749,000
Just remodeled and gorgeous! Unobstructed Oakland & Bay views. Vaulted open-beam ceiling. Chef's kitchen with granite. Hardwood floors. Large storage space. Approximately 1,954 square feet, 2 plus bedrooms & 2.5 baths. Just steps to Highlands Club

GAYLE TANTAU



MAXWELL PARK \$375,000
Top of Maxwell Park. Bay views plus rear yard and garden area. Charming two story 1946 traditional. 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, formal dining, home office, hardwood floors. Quiet, sunny street.

JODY DWORZAK



OAKLAND HILLS \$899,000
FABULOUS OPPORTUNITY! Relocating executive must sell custom almost-new, 4 bedroom, 3 bath home. Stunning Bay views! Gorgeous kitchen with granite & hardwood. Fireplace in living & family rooms. Minutes from tennis club and freeway.

ANDREA GORDON



ROCKRIDGE \$450,000
What a find! This 1,700+ sq. ft. three bedroom, two bath fourth floor penthouse has a gas-log fireplace, brand new carpeting, an eat-in kitchen, formal dining room and two huge decks that look out to the East Bay Hills and to the Marin Headlands. Call for an appointment!

TOM ERWIN



OAKMORE HIGHLANDS \$749,000
Just listed! Professional designer's own home — phenomenal kitchen! Mid-century modern upgraded with custom built-ins, hardwoods, vintage fixtures & colors. Four bedrooms, two baths & den. Sunlit landscaping, maximum privacy. Level-out to yard from two bedrooms and kitchen.

HELEN NICHOLAS



LAKE MERRITT \$425,000
You have the Lake and park at your feet just outside the windows of this spacious two bedroom, two bath condo in the famous Art Deco high-rise. Amenities include wood-burning fireplace, oak parquet floors, formal dining room, an in-unit laundry and abundant storage. Also included are 24-hour doorman and valet services.

TOM ERWIN



EL CERRITO HILLS \$739,000
On top of the world! Enjoy panoramic views from almost every room of this four bedroom, three bath home with granite kitchen and hardwood floors. Great in-law potential plus detached office! Close to golf course and tennis!

ISMAIL ABDULLAH



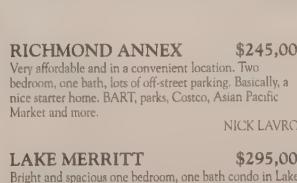
LAKE MERRITT \$400,000
Sweeping views of downtown Oakland, the south arm of Lake Merritt and out to the San Francisco Peninsula from this tenth floor two bedroom, two bath co-op. Amenities are custom decor, a private deck, 24-hour doorman services, an on-site manager and secure parking. Shown by appointment only.

TOM ERWIN



LAKE MERRITT \$329,000
WALK TO CHINATOWN & OR SF BART. Over 1,600 sq. ft., 2 bedroom, 2 bath for \$71,000 under competition in same secure high-rise. Luxury building, 24-hour security, new paint & carpet for only \$205 per sq. ft. Compare to SF — an "Oakland" "steal" in value!

D.C. HODGES



RICHMOND ANNEX \$245,000
Very affordable and in a convenient location. Two bedroom, one bath, lots of off-street parking. Basically a nice starter home. BART, parks, Costco, Asian Pacific Market and more.

NICK LAVROV



Open Sunday 2-4
BERKELEY \$569,000
This charming two bedroom is located on a lovely street in North Berkeley. Enchanting Bay and city views, spacious living room opening onto a large deck, formal dining room and gracious verandah grounds are just some of the special features.

MIRIAM WILSON



Open Sunday 2-4:30
OAKMORE HIGHLANDS \$768,000
Country English style with three bedrooms, two baths and a massive multi-purpose room flooded with sunlight. Updated kitchen with breakfast nook. Superb location for strolling to parks and shops and easy access to

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les

1 PAGE B11

404 Liquid Dr - \$429,500
 403 Liquid Sugar Dr - \$382,500

OAKLAND

1077 24th St - \$164,000
 371 30th 303 - \$409,000
 1729 36th Av - \$365,000
 1859 38th Av - \$503,000
 978 40th Av - \$285,000
 1722 41st Av - \$276,000
 392 49th Av - \$488,000
 1036 53rd St - \$435,000
 816 54th Av - \$424,000
 1030 54th St - \$349,000
 1905 5th Av - \$175,000
 3401 68th Av - \$280,000
 1069 69th Av - \$200,000
 2754 74th Av - \$230,000
 1515 78th Av - \$230,000
 2672 78th Av - \$263,000
 1339 79th Av - \$290,000
 1118 86th Av - \$248,000
 675 8th St #18 - \$379,000
 1231 94th Av - \$176,500
 1818 99th Av - \$295,000
 1806 Adeline St - \$450,000
 810 Arlington Av - \$395,000
 797 Arlington Av - \$365,000
 5705 Ayala Av - \$595,000
 1400 Barrows Rd - \$675,000
 47 Bay Forest Dr - \$929,000
 565 Bellevue 2101 - \$475,000
 3025 B'moor View - \$460,000
 280 Caldecott 203 - \$357,000
 13588 Campus Dr - \$780,000
 2452 Casa Ct - \$235,000
 655 Chetwood 401 - \$354,000
 337 Darien Av - \$227,000

ERITTO

14 Arlington Bl - \$537,000
 12 Cabrillo St - \$585,000
 88 Eureka Av - \$470,000
 4 Everett St - \$505,000
 27 Leviston Av - \$563,000
 9 Pomona Av - \$355,000
 36 Terrace Dr - \$499,000
 18 Yosemite - \$1,400,000

DORANTE

2 La Paloma Rd - \$195,000
 10 Ridgedale Ct - \$255,000
 7 Rincon Ln - \$580,000
 76 S P Dam B - \$185,000
 6 Solano Ct - \$330,000

EYVILLE

55 62nd St - \$330,000
 84 65th St - \$430,000
 Admiral A479 - \$233,500
 Captain D155 - \$266,000
 Commodore A201 - \$258,000

404 Liquid Dr - \$429,500
 403 Liquid Sugar Dr - \$382,500

1 Downey Pl - \$1,145,000
 1640 East 19th St - \$369,000
 2520 East 22nd St - \$307,000
 1914 East 27th St - \$310,000
 2543 East 29th St - \$177,000
 80 Entrada Av - \$531,000
 5117 Foothill Bl - \$370,000
 5416 Golden Gate - \$1,180,000
 1800 Gouldin Rd - \$785,000
 3578 Gray St - \$279,000
 8057 Greenly Dr - \$380,000
 3863 Grove St - \$212,000
 6300 Hillmont Av - \$355,000
 547 Jean St - \$510,000
 5823 Kingsley Cr - \$215,000
 9717 Lawlor St - \$325,000
 3030 Linden St - \$344,000
 3894 Loma Vista - \$309,000
 9640 Maddux St - \$235,000
 3271 Madeline St - \$331,000
 2774 Madera Av - \$530,000
 2043 Market St - \$413,000
 2327 Maywood Av - \$395,000
 2927 McClure St - \$200,000
 1523 Miller Av - \$370,000
 3101 Monticello Av - \$339,000
 5872 Morpeth St - \$475,000
 8401 Ney Av - \$375,000
 408 North St - \$624,500
 311 Oak St #317 - \$533,000
 311 Oak St #827 - \$436,500
 666 Oakland Av - \$315,000

RICHMOND

8 15th St - \$235,000
 1526 25th St - \$290,000
 611 37th St - \$299,000

See SALES. Page B16

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www.OaklandHomeLoan.com

Agent: Re Max

Quick Over-The-Net Pre-Approval Visit:
www.OaklandHomeLoan.com

Agent: Re Max

330 Park View Terrace

401

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

Stylish, spacious & sophisticated 2BR/2BA condominium on the top floor with city views from the living room and balcony. Great location for commute and entertainment.

Offered at \$385,000

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UST LISTED!

1 Jackson Street
 Albany
 Offered at \$419,000
 Open Sunday
 October 5th, 2-4 pm

ALBANY HILL TOWNHOUSE
 Sweeping views of the East Bay hills, 5 decks, two master-suites. Hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings, skylights. Quiet street yet convenient to El Cerrito Plaza and BART. Beautiful!

Photos & more at www.bobblumberg.com

BOB BLUMBERG
 510.280.2132

1891 Solano Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94707

Thousand Oaks Neighborhood!
 OPEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2-4PM

955 Fresno Avenue, Berkeley
 This sun-filled, 3 bedroom, 1 bath bungalow has gleaming hardwood floors, and built-ins in the living and dining rooms. The original tiled fireplace anchors the living room, while a vintage stove suggests gourmet meals in the cozy eat-in kitchen. The rear deck provides outdoor lounging space adjacent to the lovely yard and garden with fruit trees! Don't miss the proximity to Solano Avenue's shops and cafes.

Offered at \$595,000

Lori Araci
 Broker Associate
 (510) 338-1330
www.LoriAraci.com

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pacunion.com

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160 Olive Avenue, Piedmont

Open SUNDAY 2-4:30. This charming cottage is tucked away on a quiet Piedmont street offering top schools and services, SF commute options and Rose Garden vistas. Adorable, with two + bedrooms, one bath and a "great room" with wood beamed ceilings and corner fireplace.

Offered at \$579,000

KATHERINE COOPER
 OFFICE: 339.0400/211
cooper@grubbc.com
 GRUBBCO.COM

Open Sunday October 5 2:00-5:00
 LIKE LIVING ON A COUNTRY LANE
 9120 SKYLINE BLVD.



This sharply updated 4 bed, 3 bath home looks out onto San Francisco Bay, San Francisco and majestic trees. Close to Redwood Regional Park trails, this light & bright beauty features a large family room with fireplace, hardwood floors and the tranquility that is afforded by private road entry.

Offered for \$635,000

TERRY KULKA
 510-339-4789
terrykulka@att.net

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Albany

\$549,000 907 Madison St. Newly remodeled single level 2bd, 2ba home. Kitchen & appliances, bathrooms, carpet & linoleum floors, water heater and furnace all replaced in 2003. Ramon 510-814-4887.

Oakland

\$415,000 5407 Hiller Dr. OPEN SUN 2-4. Cute 1-level 2bd, 1ba bungalow with updated kitchen & formal dining room. Fireplace in living room. Maryann 510-814-4873.

\$429,000 2865 Morcom Ave., Maxwell Park Home. 1-level, 3-bd, 1.5ba, kitchen, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen. Tere 510-814-4840.

\$449,500 2331 23rd Ave. Duplex: both 2 BD, 1 BA units. Lower unit is very bright. Pergo floor in living room, tile floor in kitchen area. Eunice 510-814-4892.

\$499,000 3231 Montebello Dr. Fabulous Bay views from both units. AS IS! sale. Steve Sorenson 510-814-4888.

\$500,000 1775 & 1779 Chase St., 1788 8th. 5 lots to be sold together! Call for details! Kathy 510-814-706

Berkeley

\$299,000 3107 Ellis St. Charming 2bd, 1ba fixer on a large lot. Large 1000 sq ft. garage. 1000 sq ft. of storage. Call for details! Chuck 510-814-4847.

Emeryville

\$305,000 6363 Christie Ave. #231. Very well maintained 1 BD, 1 BA unit in Pacific Park Plaza with beautiful view of city lights. Attached garage. Mary Foss 510-814-4865 or Nina Quan 510-814-4810.

Hayward

\$339,000 2213 Oak Creek Pl. Spacious 2 bedroom end unit in well maintained complex. Interior, laundry, back yard, and attached 2 car garage. Community pool and tennis court. Jane 510-814-4810.

San Leandro

\$299,000 2500 Galleon Pl. 113. Lovely 2 bd, 2 ba unit with wood ceilings, fireplace, and interior garage. Next to golf course, marina and transportation. Tere 510-814-4840.

\$299,500 14642 Outrigger Dr. 2bd, 1ba unit with wood ceilings, fireplace, and interior garage. Next to golf course, marina and transportation. Tere 510-814-4840.

\$305,000 14640 Outrigger Dr. 1st OPEN SAT 2-4 Single level 2bd, 1ba upper unit townhome w/ gas stove, double ovens and fireplace. Two 1 car garages. Tere 510-814-4840.

\$305,000 14582 Outrigger Dr. 1st OPEN SAT 2-4 Lovely 2bd, 2ba unit facing courtyard. In unit laundry, fireplace. Two 1 car garages. Tere 510-814-4840.

\$1,350,000 1475 159th Ave. 8 residential ground floor units and a 3bd home all on one lot over 3/4 acre. 4 blocks to Bayfair shopping center. May be possible to build more units? Bev & George 510-814-4831.

San Lorenzo

\$489,000 533 Drew St. Mint 1-level 3bd, 2ba home with granite floors in living room & family room. Marble slab kitchen counter. Double pane windows. Eunice 510-814-4892.

\$355,000 5150 Diamond Heights Blvd. 306 B. Spectacular views of Bay Bridge & East Bay. 1bd, 1ba condo dual pane windows & fireplace. Chuck 510-814-4847.

CARMEL STYLE HIDEAWAY WITH STUDIO!

OPEN SUNDAY OCTOBER 5TH, 2 - 4:30 PM



2323 GLEN AVENUE, BERKELEY

OFFERED AT \$565,000

This charming 2+ bedroom home embraced by trees and greenery features built-ins, skylights and French doors that open to a deck for wonderful indoor/outdoor living. Garage converted to a great home office/artist studio. Near the Rose Garden, parks & shops!

KATHRYN STEIN
 510.848.1950 x 230

THORNWALL Properties



OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

3620 MALCOLM AVE., OAKLAND. To Oakland Hills. Beautiful ranch style home, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, and bonus room with spectacular view. Rumpus room, fireplace, hot tub, laundry room, attached 2 car garage & deck. Jack Cooley, 510-748-1109

1109 4th STREET #125, OAKLAND. Great ground floor unit. Located in the warehouse district with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Excellent industrial space conversion \$300,000. Syke Ramp, 510-748-1135

4516 BROOKDALE AVE., OAKLAND. Reduced to \$375,000. Motivated seller. Sunny & spacious throughout. 2 large bedrooms plus bonus room, large dining room with original craftsman built-ins, large kitchen, breakfast nook & view of the hills. \$375,000. Nina Zamora, 510-748-1173

3627 MANGELS, OAKLAND. Close to 1580 2+ bedrooms, 1 bath, detached garage with workshop, hardwood floors, fireplace. \$349,000. Kitty Wen, 510-748-1128, 747-1620.

436 BELLEVUE AVE., OAKLAND. 6 units in Adams Point. One of a kind apartment building overlooking the lake from all units. Hardwood floors, separate water heaters. \$1,930,000. Moon Tam, 510-747-1128, 747-1620.

1609 EVERETT ST., EL CERRITO. Location! Location! 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with beautiful hardwood floors, fireplace. Low maintenance yard. \$458,000. Moon Tam, 510-747-1620

65 EL PORTAL DR., CLAYTON. Mediterranean masterpiece in the quiet foothills of Mt. Diablo. All open space across from this beautiful 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home with manicured yards. \$730,000. Virtual tour at seebay.com. Show only by appointment with Ruth Meenek, 510-748-1101

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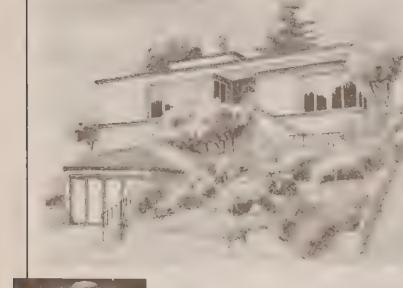
* 0.087% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$322,700 loan amount and includes points. Applicable closing costs will apply. 1/1 Adjustable Rate Mortgage is fixed for the first year and then adjusts to market rate every year thereafter. Estimated payment on maximum conforming loan amount of \$322,700 is approximately \$1,495, minimum loan amount \$10,000.

** 3.993% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$322,700 loan amount and includes points. Applicable closing costs will apply. 3/1 Adjustable Rate Mortgage is fixed for the first 3 years and then adjusts to market rate every year thereafter. Estimated payment on maximum conforming loan amount of \$322,700 is approximately \$1,541, minimum loan amount \$100,000. Homeowners insurance is required.

*** 4.406% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$500,000 and includes points. Applicable closing costs will apply. 5/1 Adjustable Rate Mortgage is fixed for the first 5 years and then adjusts to market rate every year thereafter. Estimated payment is \$2,722. Homeowners insurance is required.

Above programs are based on primary, single family residences, townhouses, and condominiums only. No prepayment penalty required. Cash out allowed up to 75% loan-to-value. Other restrictions may apply. All credit applications are subject to credit qualification and underwriting requirements. Rates as of September 30, 2003 are subject to change without notice.

COMING SOON IN PIEDMONT



Sunny 1930's traditional style home with updated eat-in kitchen, formal dining, light-filled living room with fireplace and random plank floor, three bedrooms, two bathrooms, plenty of storage space and an enchanting back yard with terraced flower garden and patio which is easily accessible for outdoor living and entertaining. Desirable central Piedmont location.

Offered at \$825,000



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15	5.0%	5.039%
Jumbo	6.0%	6.039%
Jumbo 3/1	4.75%	4.778%

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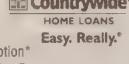
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Shelley_Stone@countrywide.com

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Purchase or Refinance - Extremely low rates

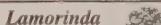
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Jonathan Sanger and Marc Souza

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2.875% APR 11.14%

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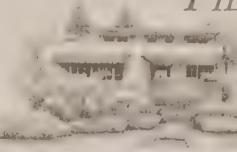
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PIEDMONT - OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30



7 HUNLEIGH ROAD \$1,695,000

Private, tranquil upper Piedmont home. 4BR/4.5BA, updated kitchen/family room opens level out to a private rear garden & pool. Large gracious living room opens to front garden. Formal dining room w/ garden view. Karen Starr

110 SCENIC AVENUE \$1,450,000

A gracious Mediterranean. Terrific remodel keeping wonderful original architectural details. Spacious formal rooms. 5BR/3.5BA plus room for play or study. Views of SF, stream and ponds. Donna DeBardi

527 BLAIR AVENUE \$1,149,000

New Price! A handsome Monterey Colonial in great central location. Three large bedrooms, two new baths including master suite; a spacious formal living room, great family room w/fireplace. Jean Simmons

226 PARK VIEW AVENUE \$849,000

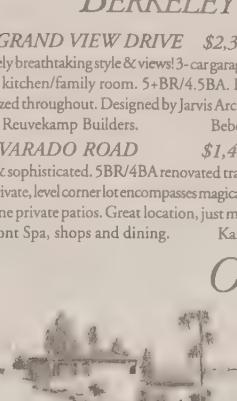
Charming traditional, located close to everything. Three bedrooms, two and one half baths, formal living room and dining room with built-ins; spacious detached home office/family room. Nancy Lehrkind

257 SCENIC AVENUE \$749,000

Charming Piedmont cottage filled with light. Spacious decks overlook the lush Oaks and serene canyon views. 4+BR/3BA, cozy sun room and family room. An affordable home in Piedmont. Sheila Gallagher



BERKELEY & KENSINGTON - OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30



1508 GRAND VIEW DRIVE \$2,300,000

Absolutely breathtaking style & views! 3-car garage w/ level entry to kitchen/family room. 5+BR/4.5BA. Elegantly customized throughout. Designed by Jarvis Architects & built by Reuvekamp Builders. Bebe McRae

66 ALVARADO ROAD \$1,495,000

Stylish & sophisticated. 5BR/4BA renovated traditional. Large private, level corner lot encompasses magical gardens and serene private patios. Great location, just minutes to Claremont Spa, shops and dining. Karen Starr

38 PERTH PLACE \$1,275,000

This light-flooded Mediterranean offers fine detailing & an easy-living flow. 5BR/3.5BA, chef's kitchen, FR, breakfast rm, lavish master suite. An elevator from the garage serves the guest & main living levels. Nacio Brown

285 STONEWALL ROAD \$1,049,000

Contemporary home (circa 1984) in a private, secluded setting! Rustic, modern & romantic! Solarium w/canyon views. 3+BR/3.5BA, great room, study, studio. Private Claremont location. Special! Faye Keogh

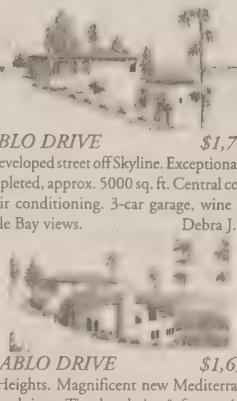
615 SPRUCE STREET \$949,000

Magical Mediterranean with big views and stunning details. 3BR/2.5BA. Master suite has coffered ceiling and level out access to private patio. Lower level w/separate entrance has huge office/media room and more. Tricia Swift

171 PURDUE AVENUE \$619,000

KENSINGTON. Exceptional Kensington 3BR/1BA home. Impeccable interior finishes. Lovely living room w/fireplace and dining area. Sweeping SF Bay views. Gorgeous level garden and deck! Ruth Frassetto

OAKLAND - OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30



6946 BRISTOL DRIVE \$949,000

Conveniently located in the Oakland/Berkeley hills on a hillside to take full advantage of the serene canyon views. Expansive eat-in gourmet kitchen w/balcony opening to large family room w/fireplace. 4BR. Jill Carrigan

5125 HARBORD DRIVE \$849,000

Surrounded by picket fences in popular Upper Rockridge, this stunning property is loaded with curb appeal. Formal living room w/cathedral ceilings, hardwood floors, 3BR/2.5BA, family room & a charming garden. Elizabeth Dickson

5273 MANILA AVENUE \$575,000

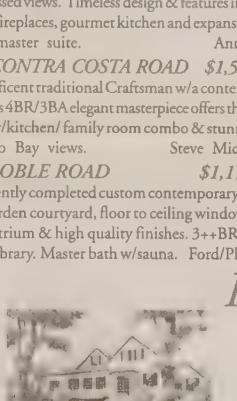
Charming lower Rockridge traditional in great location. Close to shops, coffee houses & transportation. Lovely hardwood floors & flooded w/light. The kitchen offers nice built-ins. Entertain in the private garden. Lori Lombardo

3737 LINWOOD AVENUE \$549,000

Sunny Glenview traditional with 4BR/2BA. The lovely formal rooms are highlighted by original built-ins! Level out to tranquil and private fenced back garden with fruit trees and patios! Angela Wei Grubb

201 3RD STREET #204 \$499,000

Superb designer live/work loft in historic Brick House lofts conversion. Spacious 1BR/1BA w/exposed brick walls, industrial windows and rooftop access. Close to Jack London Square & waterfront. Ford/Plowright



55 DIABLO DRIVE \$1,650,000

Diablo Heights. Magnificent new Mediterranean w/ unsurpassed views. Timeless design & features including 2 grand fireplaces, gourmet kitchen and expansive deck. Lavish master suite. Anne Feste

6070 CONTRA COSTA ROAD \$1,549,000

A magnificent traditional Craftsman w/a contemporary flair. This 4BR/3BA elegant masterpiece offers the perfect setting w/kitchen/ family room combo & stunning San Francisco Bay views. Steve Michaelides

195 ROBLE ROAD \$1,175,000

This recently completed custom contemporary features a lush garden courtyard, floor to ceiling windows, large indoor atrium & high quality finishes. 3+BR/2.5BA. Loft & library. Master bath w/sauna. Ford/Plowright

5901 ASCOT DRIVE \$759,000

Dramatic 3BR/2BA Piedmont Pines contemporary w/SF Bay views. Living room opens out to a fabulous covered deck, perfect for entertaining. Dining area opens to private deck. Great location. Debbi Dimaggio

101 ELYSIAN FIELDS DR. \$735,000

Resort living in this 1 level ranch on a huge 2 parcel site in a serene setting. 3BR/2BA, including master & fabulous entertaining possibilities from the expansive family room, gorgeous patio & swimming pool. Helene Barkin

940 ALMA PLACE \$579,000

This three bedroom, two bath home offers a level garden, formal dining room, living room w/fireplace, master suite with sitting area, plus room for office and garage with interior access. Kurt Buchholz

6231 BROADWAY TERRACE \$425,000

Upper Rockridge 2BR/1BA located close to Village Market, College Ave., Montclair, BART & transportation. This original home is yours to create, with a little imagination and your personal touch. Adam Betta

6231 BROADWAY TERRACE \$425,000

Stylish, spacious & sophisticated 2BR/2BA condominium on the top floor with city views from the living room and balcony. Great location for commute and entertainment. Mavis Delacroix

PIEDMONT - BY APPOINTMENT



ENCHANTING OASIS \$2,650,000

Beautiful gardens w/lush lawn, arbor & pool surround this 4+BR/4BA home with library and rumpus room. Home needs some TLC to complete a most unique estate. Separate guest cottage. Angela Wei Grubb

MONTEREY COLONIAL \$1,435,000

Beautifully detailed Monterey Colonial! This gracious home has elegant formal rooms, updated eat-in kitchen, charming sitting room/office, 3 spacious BR & wonderful lower level rumpus room. Mindy Scott

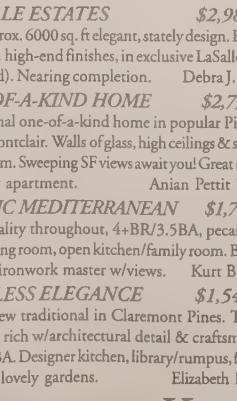
CONTEMPORARY \$1,250,000

This stylish central Piedmont 4BR/3BA contemporary offers a beautiful gourmet kitchen, marble & granite bathrooms, and fantastic state-of-the-art eleven seat home theater. Adam Betta

SPLENDID TRADITIONAL \$995,000

Splendid traditional in the heart of town & located on a lovely tree lined street. Crisp plantation shutters, hardwood floors, a deck, garden & views. 3BR & space for home office. Anian Pettit Tunney

OAKLAND & ALAMEDA - BY APPOINTMENT



TRADITIONAL \$1,495,000

A grand foyer leads to an elegant living room & library, both w/French doors to the lovely back garden. This wonderful home offers 4BR/4.5 updated baths, Alan Johnson kitchen & three fireplaces. Linda McClain

TWO HOUSES - ROCKRIDGE \$1,095,000

Fabulous central Rockridge location near BART, shops & dining. Two houses. Front-5BR/2BA, formal dining room, hardwood floors & basement. Rear-3BR/1+BA, updated kitchen, deck & patio. Donna DeBardi

EXPANSIVE CONTEMPORARY \$845,000

Dramatic interior filled w/light. 5BR/4.5BA including master. Family room adjacent to kitchen, media room, level garden & more! Helene Barkin

ALAMEDA

ALAMEDA. Beautifully remodeled & spacious split-level home in central Alameda sited on a large lot w/lovely formal room, 4BR/2BA, separate guest suite w/3rd BA. Level garden, 3-car garage. Helene Barkin

BUILDABLE LOTS \$689,000 EACH

Two Piedmont side of Montclair lots. Debra J. Dryden

MONTCLAIR \$589,000

Warm & comfortable home w/Italian stone counters, updated kitchen & baths. Master bedroom suite + bonus room for home office. Level gardens. Adam Betta

LOVELY CRAFTSMAN \$529,000

Sweet 2BR/1BA Craftsman w/hardwood floors, formal dining room & living room w/fireplace. 1-car garage & basement. Near BART & shops. Carolyn Jones

LAKE MERRITT CONDO \$249,000

Very spacious 1BR/1BA top floor condominium close to Lake Merritt and all conveniences. Angela Wei Grubb

BERKELEY, KENSINGTON & EL CERRITO - BY APPOINTMENT



BERKELEY CONTEMPORARY \$1,350,000

Sophisticated contemporary close to U.C.!

Breathtaking

Bay views!

Luxury finishes.

3BR/3.5BA plus guest room,

2-lofts,

chef's kitchen/family room,

expansive terraces,

two-car attached garage!

Bebe McRae

UNSURPASSED SF VIEWS \$1,325,000

KENSINGTON.

Unsurpassed Bay & Bridge views!

Sunfilled,

dramatic

4BR/3.5BA w/level access.

Exquisitely

renovated.

Easy flow to patio & level garden.

Two master

suites on main level.

Helene Barkin

MEDITERRANEAN \$1,150,000

Beautiful Mediterranean (circa 1925) w/Bay views, elegant updating, 4BR including au-pair suite, 3.5BA, study, large landscaped garden w/hot tub, 2-car garage. Prestigious Claremont location. Bebe McRae

NORTH BERKELEY HILLS \$695,000

A fabulous fixer in the North Berkeley hills! This Mediterranean home (circa 1935) is need of restoration, and there is also a separate two bedroom house (circa 1971) on a 3/4 acre lot!

Bebe McRae

MIRA VISTA HIGHLANDS \$689,000

El Cerrito. Located in Mira Vista Highlands, this 4BR/2BA home has been graciously renovated w/new custom kitchen & updated baths. Gracious formal rooms, spectacular views, patio & level lawn. Dana Cohen

BERKELEY DUPLEX \$675,000

Wonderful North Berkeley brown shingle duplex. Upper unit has 3BR/1BA + light filled living room w/ vaulted ceilings. Lower unit has 1+BR/1BA. Enjoy the beautiful gardens. Susie Schevill

BUILDABLE LOT \$199,900

This upscale lot located in the Claremont Hills offers / serene canyon views and is surrounded by million dollar properties. Diane Verducci

Sales

FROM PAGE B13

721 39th St - \$300,000
 461 5th St - \$250,000
 324 Bissell Av - \$237,500
 1125 Brookside B - \$125,000
 5329 Country View - \$599,000
 5403 Garvin Av - \$369,000
 66 Idaho St - \$420,000
 3109 Jo Ann Dr - \$340,000
 6618 Kensington - \$475,000
 691 Lassen St - \$250,000
 715 Lassen St - \$404,000
 1633 Mariposa St - \$380,000
 3210 McBryde Av - \$316,000
 4008 McGlothlin - \$260,000
 403 McLaughlin St - \$302,000
 885 Meadow View - \$747,500
 856 Mulberry Ct - \$698,000
 860 Mulberry Ct - \$640,000
 866 Mulberry Ct - \$629,000
 3792 Northridge Dr - \$290,000
 813 Poppy Ct - \$435,000
 444 S. 17th St - \$555,000
 1233 S. 55th St - \$680,000

SAH LEANDRO

1304 135th Av - \$475,000

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*1914 Rose St.
Berkeley*
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Charming and sweet cottage in the heart of Berkeley's Gourmet Ghetto. Two spacious bedrooms plus an extra space good for a variety of uses. Comfortable open floor plan with great floors and a cook's kitchen. Enjoy life on the private sunny deck.

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Berkeley • (510) 527-2700**

**Security Pacific
Real Estate Brokerage**
 3223 Blume Drive, Richmond
510-222-8870

EL CERRITO**GEORGEOUS MEDITERRANEAN IN MIRA VISTA**

5407 Mac Donald
 2BR 1 remodeled BA, approx 1331 sq. ft., formal dining room, gleaming hardwood flrs, split level floor plan. Enormous landscaped park-like backyard, central heat, upgraded electrical, new int. & ext. paint, remodeled kitchen & breakfast room.

Open Sun. 2-4www.carladellazzoppa.com**510-662-8558**

FIXER IN THE HILLS W/ GOLDEN GATE VIEWS!
 615 Seaview
\$449,950
 3BR 2BA w/ master suite. Family rm, 2-sided fireplace. 2 car att. garage w/ int. access. 1 level home on large lot, comes w/ all appliances & freezer, structural & cosmetic work, but not horrendous. Great opportunity!

Open Sun. 2-4www.geristern.com**510-662-8469**

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY IN CENTRAL EL CERRITO! \$159,000
 3BR 2.5BA, but approx. 4298 sq. ft.! Used as a Child Day Care makes for lots of options! Could be live-work set up. Huge great room. #0304045

John Ford**510-662-8474****BERKELEY****WESTBRAE HOME**

1206 Kains

\$499,000

3BR 2BA. 2 story w/ new. Foundation, electrical, plumbing and solar panels. Hardwood floors, enclosed porch and a sunny backyard.

Jamie Lake**510-662-8487****Open Sun. 1-5**[Visit our website - http://www.spre.com](http://www.spre.com)

712 Bloom St - \$608,000
 917 Bridge Rd - \$620,000
 722 Burial St - \$644,000
 992 Collier Dr - \$520,000
 14578 Cypress - \$415,000
 15066 Edgemoor - \$425,000
 290 Estabrook St - \$320,000
 2352 Fiji Wy - \$410,000
 16350 Gordon Wy - \$270,000
 1643 Grand Av - \$381,000
 1484 Green Ct - \$341,000
 1766 Lanier Av - \$415,000
 296 Lorraine Bl - \$410,000
 1693 Manor Bl - \$396,000
 14770 Martell Av - \$426,000
 1021 Martin Bl - \$360,000
 774 Midway Av - \$335,000
 438 Mitchell Av - \$587,500
 15560 Oceanside - \$505,000
 2517 Outrigger Dr - \$399,000
 1468 Pearson Av - \$375,000
 14946 Portofino Cr - \$400,000
 1606 Russ Av - \$368,000
 2222 Sandpiper Ct - \$410,000

746 Sybil Av - \$445,000
 251 West B'moor Bl - \$407,500
 16130 Windsor Dr - \$387,000
 3878 Yorkshire St - \$269,000

By the numbers**ALAMEDA**

TOTAL SALES: 13
 LOWEST PRICE: \$350,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$775,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$525,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$539,846

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 4
 LOWEST PRICE: \$290,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$650,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$486,500
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$363,100

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 8
 LOWEST PRICE: \$185,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,400,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$614,250
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$614,250

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 5
 LOWEST PRICE: \$185,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$580,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$330,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$363,100

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 17
 LOWEST PRICE: \$316,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$785,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$550,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$536,382

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 90
 LOWEST PRICE: \$140,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,350,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$438,333
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$438,333

RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 26
 LOWEST PRICE: \$120,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$710,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$410,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$332,786

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 29
 LOWEST PRICE: \$200,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$620,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$410,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$332,786



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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings, advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Market Indicator*

Last wk

5.750

This wk

5.500

CONTRA COSTA TIMES MORTGAGE GUIDEwww.mtgeinfo.com/cct

Rates as of 9/30/03

COMMENTS

COMPANY	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Comments
Santell & Associates 800-516-0656 DRE#00549593	30-yr Fixed 5.375... .0000 5.466... .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000... .0000 6.040... .30	15-yr Fixed 4.875... .0000 5.028... .30	*30-yr ARM 1.950... .0000 4.946... .30	OPEN WEEKENDS / 0 Points, 0 Cost Avail. We tell you everything up front. / Int. only avail! Min. commitment fully indexed 4.85%.
Saratoga Bancorp 800-935-6266 DRE#01220326	30-yr Fixed 5.500... .0000 5.550... .45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875... .0000 5.900... .45	15-yr Fixed 4.875... .0000 4.960... .45	5/1 ARM 4.375... .0000 4.160... .30	Loan for all credit grades! No income Check Loans, No Upfront Fees. Purh/Refi to 100% Sat-Sun. Saratogabancorp.com
SF Pacific Mtg. Consult. 415-567-5525 DRE#01423827	30-yr Fixed 5.375... .0000 5.417... .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750... .0000 5.771... .30	15-yr Fixed 4.750... .0000 4.770... .30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 2.750... .0000 2.768... .30	Expert Real Estate Advice. Local SF Bay Area Broker. *5 yr int only period, Libor indexed
Western Capital Mortgage 888-560-2923 DRE#01080489	30-yr Fixed 5.375... .0000 5.440... .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750... .0000 5.840... .30	15-yr Fixed 4.750... .0000 4.820... .30	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 4.875... .0250 4.940... .30	Apply Online at www.lowestrates.com. No Closing cost loans, 103% loans avail. *Posted Rates Are For Purchases
A American Resid. Lend. 800-566-8470 DRE#01430340	30-yr Fixed 5.500... .0000 5.592... .45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750... .0000 5.790... .45	15-yr Fixed 4.875... .0000 5.028... .45	COFI ARM 1.950... .0000 1.990... .45	Refi, purchase or consolidate now! Free Approval! No Doc Loans M-F 7:00-9:00 Sat-Sun 7:00-5:00
A Better Mortgage 800-711-0027 DRE#01162773	30-yr Fixed 5.375... .0000 5.570... .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750... .0000 5.830... .30	15-yr Fixed 4.750... .0000 4.830... .30	5/1 ARM Jumbo call...	Credit problems ok. Open weekends 2nd mortgages/Equity lines available www.westcoastfinancial.net
A Superior Mortgage 800-591-4446 DRE#01351704	30-yr Fixed 5.375... .0000 5.560... .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000... .0000 6.090... .30	15-yr Fixed 4.875... .0000 5.080... .30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.750... .0000 4.910... .30	Open weekends. Credit problems OK. *Apply online* www.superior-mtg.net. Se Habla Espanol
A-Olympic Funding-Best Rate 800-640-5588 DRE#01197415	30-yr Fixed 5.250... .0000 5.379... .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.375... .0000 5.591... .30	15-yr Fixed 4.375... .2000 4.522... .30	10-yr Int Only Int 3.250... .0000 3.331... .30	5/3.625 2pts WOW! INTEREST ONLY & NO COST LOANS E-Bay Office 800-840-5588 Hablamos Espanol ONLY call 877-227-2642
AAA Mortgage 888-821-6200 DRE#01098146	30-yr Fixed 5.375... .0000 5.460... .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.675... .0000 5.980... .30	15-yr Fixed 4.875... .0000 5.080... .30	5/25 ARM 4.500... .0000 4.590... .30	Request a Good Estimate via email asamortgage@aol.com OPEN WEEKENDS 888-821-6200
AccessBanc Mortgage 800-661-2765 DRE#00892684	30-yr Fixed 5.500... .0000 5.562... .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750... .0000 5.781... .30	15-yr Fixed 4.875... .0000 5.080... .30	Jumbo Special*	3 yr/1 yr. ARM: 4.000%, 3.985 APR/0.00 Fee 5 yr/1 yr. ARM: 4.500%, 3.708 APR/0.00 Fee Prepay & other restrictions may apply
AlmLoan.com 888-411-4246 DRE#01235124	30-yr Fixed 5.375... .2500 5.508... .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625... .1000 5.704... .30	15-yr Fixed 4.625... .0375 4.867... .30	7/1 ARM Jumbo 5.000... .0000 4.474... .30	Apply and lock online 24/7. Open Sat. and Sun. from 9am to 2pm. Rates and Fees Posted Online Daily
Bank of America 877-88-8844 DRE#01606	30-yr Fixed 5.475... .1000 5.629... .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625... .1000 5.790... .30	15-yr Fixed 4.750... .0000 4.980... .30	3/1 ARM 3.625... .0000 3.778... .30	100% Financing Available - Fast Closings No Cost for Appraiser - Refinance Today! *Restrictions Apply
Bank of America County 925-688-3760 DRE#01406	30-yr Fixed 5.625... .0418 5.830... .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.675... .0099 5.950... .30	6 month ARM 4.000... .0000 4.131... .30	3/1 ARM 4.000... .0046 4.340... .30	Call or e-mail Colette or Candice at colette.weeks@bankofamerica.com candice.zermenno@bankofamerica.com
Cal-State Funding 800-883-5363 DRE#00744401	30-yr Fixed 5.375... .1000 5.460... .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.675... .1000 5.960... .30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.500... .0000 4.590... .30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.000... .0000 4.090... .30	Cal-State Funding can fund your loan. Rates change daily, call for latest rate We are here to satisfy your needs
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eSource Mortgage, Inc. 888-221-9787 DRE#00898744	30-yr Fixed 5.250... .1750 5.510... .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500... .2000 5.710... .30	15-yr Fixed 4.500... .2000 4.720... .30	1-yr ARM 1.250... .0000 3.340... .60	Low rates with NO POINTS ALSO NO CLOSING COSTS AVAILABLE Pics online @www.lendia.com
First Blackhawk Financial 925-648-3039 DRE#01440555	30-yr Fixed 5.500... .0000 5.590... .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875... .0000 5.910... .30	10/1 ARM Jumbo 5.500... .0000 5.530... .30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.625... .0000 4.690... .30	Jumbo & super Jumbo Specialist Mary L 3/1/jumbo 3.875 pts ap 4.90 apr 30 day Call 7 days wk mtg info@1stblackhawk.com
Golden Horizon Mortgage 877-414-8280 DRE#01316954	30-yr Fixed 5.125... .2000 5.374... .30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625... .2000 5.829... .30	15/yr Fixed 4.500... .2000 4.920... .30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.250... .1000 4.364... .30	OPEN WEEKENDS, CREDIT PROBLEM OK, CASH 100% PURCHASE PROGRAMS NO APPLICATION 877-414-8280 or WWW.CALFIRSTLENDING.COM
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\$228,000	965 Shorepoint #207	1BD/1BA
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Kane & Associates	Alan Lertzman	
\$236,000	960 Shorepoint #308	1BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-523-0707
Panavista Realty	Ramesh	
\$299,900	601 Willow St.	2BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-814-4829
Harbor Bay Realty	Margaret Lomba	
\$305,000	14582 Outrigger Dr.	2BD/1BA
Open Sat 2-4		510-814-4840
Harbor Bay Realty	Tere Lee	
\$305,000	14640 Outrigger Dr.	2BD/1BA
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Harbor Bay Realty	Tere Lee	
\$330,000	2101 Shoreline #144	2BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4	Main Island	510-205-3575
Kane & Associates	Andrew Raskopf	
\$340,000	2293 West 133rd Ave #2	2BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-882-5232
Kane & Associates	Lena Sazo	
\$349,000	2029 Otis Dr #H	3BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-748-1108
Gallagher & Lindsey	Bill Bissett	
\$365,000	2515 Central Ave	2BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-748-1103
Gallagher & Lindsey	Signe Nelson	
\$375,000	1324 Fernside Blvd	2BD/1BA
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Kane & Associates	Valerie Newman/Lynn Smith	
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Kane & Associates	Tisa Beene	
\$435,000	3477 Oleander Ave	2BD/2BA
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Kane & Associates	John Bergman	
\$435,000	918 Walnut St.	2BD/1.5BA
Open Sun 2-4:30		510-523-6544/483-1676
Kane & Associates	Lois Chase/Krystyna Nowak	
\$439,500	3154 Ball Ln.	3BD/2.5BA
Open Sat & Sun 2-4		510-814-4841
Harbor Bay Realty	Tom Young	
\$450,000	1819 Chapin St.	1BD/1.5BA
Open Sat & Sun 2-4		510-919-9811
Alameda Realty	Barbara K.	
\$460,000	470 Cola Ballena #8	2+BD/2.5BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-748-1101
Gallagher & Lindsey	Ruth Masonek	
\$465,000	1428 Cottage St.	2+BD/1.5BA
Open Sat & Sun 2-4		510-748-1166
Gallagher & Lindsey	The Basora's	
\$469,000	1210 Pacific Ave	3BD/1.5BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-814-4871
Harbor Bay Realty	Denise Garvine	
\$473,000	1626 Broadway	2+BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4:30		510-828-3118
Kane & Associates	Kathie Ng	

Alameda

\$479,000	2901 Madison	3BD/1.5BA
Sun. 2-4:30		510-338-1317
Pacific Union Real Estate	Fritz Hochfelder	
\$485,000	1543 3rd St.	3BD/1BA
Open Sat & Sun 2-4		510-814-4846
Harbor Bay Realty	Janice Payne	
\$489,000	25 Millington	2BD/2BA
Open Sat & Sun 2-4		510-814-4892/814-6826
Harbor Bay Realty	Unice Edwards/Donna Williams	
\$494,000	208 Maltland Dr	3BD/2.5BA
Open Sat & Sun 2-4		510-814-4884/814-709
Harbor Bay Realty	I. Lipetski/M. Schumacher	
\$510,000	1076 Foster St.	2BD/2.5BA
Open Sat & Sun 2-4		510-814-4827
Harbor Bay Realty	Marcia McIntyre	
\$525,000	2617 San Jose Ave	3BD/1.5BA
Open Sun 2-4:30		510-612-6567
Jerry		
\$529,995	1187 Ninth St	2+BD/2.5BA
Open Sun 1-4	Gold Coast	510-428-1150/701-3661
Northern Calif Funding	Milton/Janet	
\$550,000	1623 Sherman St.	4+BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-748-1161
Gallagher & Lindsey	Jim Nations	
\$575,000	1616 B Fernside Blvd	3BD/2.5BA
Open Sun 2-4:30		510-845-0211
Prudential CA Realty	Steve Ryman	
\$599,000	18 Cotella Court	3BD/2BD
Open Sat & Sun 2-4		510-915-9111/915-9721
Pacific Coast R.E.	Evelyn Shiu Courtland/Ron Dunn	
\$675,000	2441 Otis Dr	3+BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-748-1131
Gallagher & Lindsey	Dorothy Franchi	
\$599,000	580 Kings Rd	3BD/2.5BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-814-4875
Harbor Bay Realty	Dedrie Dixon	
\$625,000	1069 Gardenia Terrace	3BD/1.5BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-748-1111
Gallagher & Lindsey	The Mcintyre's	
\$625,000	2441 Otis Dr	3+BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-748-1131
Gallagher & Lindsey	Dorothy Franchi	
\$655,000	1069 Gardenia Terrace	4BD/3BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-748-1111
Gallagher & Lindsey	The Mcintyre's	
\$655,000	1315 Santa Clara Ave	4+BD/2.5BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-508-1215/205-3575
Gallagher & Lindsey	Juliana Wynberg	
\$669,000	2913 Bayview Dr.	3BD/2.5BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-508-1215/205-3575
Gallagher & Lindsey	Juliana Wynberg	
\$665,000	2800 Clay St.	3+BD/1.5BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-748-1138
Gallagher & Lindsey	Virginia Ambrosini	
\$675,000	1315 Santa Clara Ave	duplex
Open Sun 2-4		510-499-7852
Gallagher & Lindsey	Alan Gill	
\$675,000	1227 Ballena Blvd	3BD/2.5BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-748-1101
Gallagher & Lindsey	Ruth Masonek	
\$700,000	1227 Ballena Blvd	1BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-748-1101
Gallagher & Lindsey	Ruth Masonek	

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\$729,000	1821 Versailles Ave.	4BD/2.5BA
Sun. 1-4pm		925-253-6227
Pacific Union Real Estate	Paul Ratto	
\$739,000	740 Santa Clara Ave	3BD/1.5BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-814-4874
Harbor Bay Realty	Mark Playsted	
\$739,000	749 Limerick Ln	3BD/2.5BA
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\$779,000	1621 Dayton Ave	2BD/2.5BA
Open Sat & Sun 2-4		510-814-4872
Harbor Bay Realty	Ginger Schuler	
\$829,500	1624 San Antonio	3BD/1.5BA
Open Sat & Sun 2-4		510-814-4816
Harbor Bay Realty	Sid Boring	
\$849,000	3255 Liberty Ave.	4BD/4BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-522-5578
Galina		
\$67,000	615 Sand Hook Isle	3BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-814-7113
Harbor Bay Realty	Russ Grant	
\$67,000	139 Sugar Creek Ln.	4BD/4.5BA
Sun. 1-4		925-314-1518
C2I Heritage	Jerry Morlarty	
\$649,000	1206 Kains	3BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-662-8487
Prudential CA Realty	Anna-Maija Middleton	
\$651,000	1655 Scenic	2BD/1.5BA
Open Sun 2-4:30		925-524-8883/33
Berkeley Hills Realty	Bill & Zerwden	
\$651,000	1710 Parker St.	2BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4:30		510-280-2177
Prudential CA Realty	Tim Cassidy	
\$651,000	2300 Ashby	3BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-845-0211
Prudential CA Realty	Nancy Platford	
\$651,000	1206 Kains	3BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-662-8487
Prudential CA Realty	Barbara Marlow	
\$651,000	1655 Scenic	2BD/1.5BA
Open Sun 2-4:30		925-524-8883/33
Prudential CA Realty	Bill & Zerwden	
\$651,000	1710 Parker St.	2BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4:30		510-280-2177
Prudential CA Realty	Tim Cassidy	
\$651,000	2736 Milvia St.	2BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-280-2159
Prudential CA Realty	Amanda Burton	
\$651,000	1328 Curtis St.	dpx
Open Sun 1-4		510-232-1462
Coldwell Banker Bartels	David Bartels	
\$656,000	2323 Glen	2+BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4:30		510-292-2015
Thornwall Properties	Mila Azimzai	
\$652,000	2736 Milvia St.	2BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-280-2159
Prudential CA Realty	Kathryn Stein	
\$656,000	564 San Luis	2BD/1BA
Sun. 2-4		510-652-0619
C2I Heritage	Miriam Wilson	
\$659,000	1139 The Alameda	2+BD/1.25BA
Open Sun 2-4:30		510-290-2119
Prudential CA Realty	Alexandria Crisafulli	
\$659,000	955 Fresno Ave.	3BD/1BA
Sun. 2-4		510-338-1330
Pacific Union Real Estate	Lorri Arazli	
\$659,000	2436 McGee Ave.	3BD/1BA
Sun. 2-4:30		510-646-1495
Coldwell Banker	Rita Zerwden	
\$659,000	1541 Berkeley Way	1+BD/1.25BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-945-0211
Prudential CA Realty	Fatima Ali	
\$650,000	1217 Channing Way	1BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4:30		510-524-9888/18
Berkeley Hills Realty	Maya Trilling	
\$649,000	1714 Hearst Ave.	2BD/1BA
Sun. 1-4		510-486-1495
Coldwell Banker	Josh Whitmer	
\$649,000	1849 Spruce St.	1+BD/1BA
Sun. 2-4		510-486-1495
Pacific Union Real Estate	Kim Marienthal	
\$650,000	1018 Keith Ave	4BD/3+BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-524-9888/28
Berkeley Hills Realty	Barbara Conheim	
\$650,000	1626 Broadway	2+BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4:30		510-524-9888/28
Kane & Associates	Kathie Ng	

Berkeley

\$299,000	768 Keeler St.	3BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-5		510-280-2139
RED OAK	Diane Ohisson	
\$339,000	2412 Sacramento St.	3BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4:30		510-280-2177
RED OAK	Merritt Levine	
\$339,000	2414 Hilgard	2BD/1.5BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-845-0211
North Berkeley	Gaby Olander	
\$425,000	1524 Tyler	3BD/2BA
Open Sun 2-5		510-945-0211
Prudential CA Realty	Di Allen-Thompson	
\$425,000	1215 Oregon St.	2BD/1BA
Sun. 2-4		510-338-1309
Pacific Union Real Estate	Lee Jacobson	
\$439,000	1201 Harper St.	2BD/1BA
Open Sun 2-4:30		510-28

Weekend OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

www.contra-costatimes.com

keyley	38 Perth Place	5BD/3+BA	Oakland	Oakland	Oakland	Oakland	
,\$000	38 Perth Place	5BD/3+BA	\$289,950 2026-2028 80th Ave.	3BD/2BA	\$519,000 319 Newton Ave.	4BD/2BA	
4:30		510-652-2133	Sun. 1-4pm East Oakland	510-530-6330	China Hill 510-531-7000 x286	Sun. 2-4:30 Montclair	
rubb Co.		Nacio Bruno	Howard Kane	Wells & Bennett Realtors	Heidi Tuggle	510-531-7000 x237	
000	3709 Claremont	5BD/3BA	\$299,000 2380 108th Ave	2.5BD/1.5BA	\$529,000 3966 Norton Ave.	2.5BD/2BA	
sun 2-4:30		510-339-9290	Open Sun 2:30-4:30 Duarante	510-273-9611	Laurel 510-338-1334	Sun. 2-4:30 Oaklmore	
rtial CA Realty		David Otero	Prudential CA Realty	Pacific Union Real Estate	Vicki Woodhead	510-482-9000	
,\$000	66 Alvarado Rd.	5BD/4BA	\$299,000 2800 Sylhewe Rd.	1BD/1BA	\$549,000 2814 Sylhewe Rd.	3BD/1.5BA	
4:30	Claremont	510-339-0400	Sun. 1-5 Lincoln Heights	510-339-4700	Lincoln Heights 510-339-4700	Sun. 2-4:30 Upper Rockridge	
rubb Co.		Carolyn Jones	Coldwell Banker	Donna Conroy	Donna Conroy	510-338-1318	
,\$000	336 Panoramic	7BD/5BA	\$299,950 1466 Adeline St.	3BD/2BA	\$549,000 3737 Linwood Ave.	4BD/2BA	
Sun 2-5	Panoramic Hill	510-524-9880x35	Sun. 12-4pm	510-251-6000	The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400	Sun. 2-4:30 Montclair	
ley Hills Realty		Denise Millburn	Help-U-Sell EastBay	Tony Wright	Angela Wei Grubb	510-339-4550	
,\$000	1508 Grand View Dr.	5BD/4.5BA	\$310,000 3020 Curran Ave	2BD/1BA	\$549,000 5681 Chelton Dr.	2BD/1.5BA	
4:30		510-652-2133	Open Sun 2-4:30 Lower Laurel	510-435-8533	Montclair 510-339-4567	Sun. 2-4:30 Montclair	
rubb Co.		Bebe McRae	Prudential CA Realty	Tara Banks	Rosie Nyaetha	510-338-1315	
,\$000	7ville		\$310,000 322 Hanover Ave. #310	2BD/1BA	\$549,000 6622 Sobrante Rd	2.5BD/1BA	
			Sun. 2-4:30 Lake Merritt	510-531-7000 x238	Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair	Sun. 2-5pm Montclair	
000	631 Bridgewater Circle	4BD/3BA	Wells & Bennett Realtors	Patsy Buhler	Dolores Thom	510-681-8887	
4		925-314-1518	Open Sat 1-4	2854 Octavia St.	2.5BD/2BA	\$829,000 6982 Broadway Terr.	3+BD/2.5BA
rtage		Jerry Moriarty	Windermere Properties of E.Bay	925-469-5011	Tarpoff & Talbert	510-338-1315	Sun. 2-4:30 Pacific Union Real Estate
Cerrito			\$330,000 6730 MacArthur	3BD/2BA	\$550,000 3620 Malcom Ave	4BD/2.5BA	
000	5407 MacDonald	2BD/1BA	Open Sun 2-4	1-800-347-1365x250	Open Sun 1-4	\$829,000 6986 Buena Vista Ave.	3+BD/2.5BA
ity Pacific		510-662-8558	Prudential CA Realty	Kacy Carr	2854 Octavia St.	510-338-1318	Sun. 2-4:30 Pacific Union Real Estate
000	1313 Noble Ct	3BD/1BA	\$349,000 3928 Bayo St	2BD/1BA	6622 Sobrante Rd	4+BD/3.5BA	
un 2-4		510-525-2346	Open Sun 2-4:30	Laurel	510-334-2010	For Sale By Owner	510-681-8887
ntial CA Realty		Carol Heath-Kim	Prudential CA Realty	Lois Harris	510-633-2050	For Sale By Owner	510-681-8887
000	6807 Central Ave	dpx	\$356,000 690-692 31st	4BD/2BA	6622 Sobrante Rd	4+BD/3.5BA	
un 2-4		510-280-2113	Open Sun 2-5	Oakland	510-334-2010	For Sale By Owner	510-681-8887
AK		Pamela Manning	Prudential CA Realty	Heather Sandford	510-633-2050	For Sale By Owner	510-681-8887
,\$000	615 Seaview	3BD/1.5BA	\$370,000 1965 Hoover	1BD/1BA	6622 Sobrante Rd	4+BD/3.5BA	
un 2-4		510-662-8469	Open Sun 2-4:30	Oakmore	510-339-9290	For Sale By Owner	510-681-8887
ity Pacific		Geri Stern	Prudential CA Realty	Bill Boze	6622 Sobrante Rd	4+BD/3.5BA	
000	1429 Navellier St	3BD/1.5BA	\$375,000 371 - 30th St.	2BD/2BA	6622 Sobrante Rd	4+BD/3.5BA	
un 1-4		510-280-2108	Sun. 2-5	Pill Hill	510-339-4700	For Sale By Owner	510-681-8887
AK		Robin Kingsbury	Prudential CA Realty	Elena Stone	6622 Sobrante Rd	4+BD/3.5BA	
000	8360 Terrace Dr	3BD/2BA	\$375,000 4516 Brookdale Ave	2+BD/1BA	6622 Sobrante Rd	4+BD/3.5BA	
un 2-4		510-845-8326	Open Sun 1-4	510-748-1173	6622 Sobrante Rd	4+BD/3.5BA	
un & Ng		Miriam Ng	Gallagher & Lindsey	Nina Zamora	6622 Sobrante Rd	4+BD/3.5BA	
000	2659 Tamalpais Ave.	4+BD/3BA	\$379,000 1070 61st St	2+BD/2BA	6622 Sobrante Rd	4+BD/3.5BA	
un 2-4		510-798-4802	Open Sun 1:30-4:30	North Oakland	510-845-0211	For Sale By Owner	510-681-8887
rtage		Ismail Abdullah	Prudential CA Realty	Gaby Olander	6622 Sobrante Rd	4+BD/3.5BA	
unction	2 bdrm/1 ba.	\$389,000	\$379,000 3272 Wyman Street	1BD/1BA	6622 Sobrante Rd	4+BD/3.5BA	
Sun. 2-4			Sun. 2-4:30	Maxwell Park	510-339-4562	For Sale By Owner	510-681-8887
			Montclair Better Homes	Gayl Smith	6622 Sobrante Rd	4+BD/3.5BA	
000	8360 Terrace Dr	3BD/2BA	\$385,000 330 Park View Terrace	2BD/2BA	6622 Sobrante Rd	4+BD/3.5BA	
un 2-4			Sun. 2-4:30pm	Lake Merritt	510-339-0400	For Sale By Owner	510-681-8887
Hills			The Grubb Co.	Mavis Delacroix	6622 Sobrante Rd	4+BD/3.5BA	
un & Ng					6622 Sobrante Rd	4+BD/3.5BA	
000	2659 Tamalpais Ave.	4+BD/3BA	\$385,000 330 Park View Terrace	2BD/2BA	6622 Sobrante Rd	4+BD/3.5BA	
un 2-4		510-559-2939 or 559-2901	Sun. 2-4:30pm	Lake Merritt	510-339-0400	For Sale By Owner	510-681-8887
rtage			The Grubb Co.		6622 Sobrante Rd	4+BD/3.5BA	
unction	2 bdrm/1 ba.	\$389,000					
000	2 Gardens RE		Joan Underwood				
000	2 bdrm/1 ba.	\$385,000					
000	2659 Tamalpais Ave.	4+BD/3BA					
un 2-4		510-559-2935 or 559-2906					
1 Gardens		Jean Shrem or Marni Fischer					
000	2 bdrm/1 ba.	\$399,000					
un 2-4		510-559-2939 or 559-2901					
1 Gardens		Mary Gray or Mykah Larkins					
Cobrante							
000	5027 San Pablo Dam Road	2BD/1.5BA					
un 2-4		510-292-3041					
1 Gardens		Crystal Elliott/Merrilyn Rhodes					
ay Rd. 3	2 bdrm/2ba.	\$419,000					
Sun. 2-4		510-292-3052					
1 Gardens R.E.		Tom Modic					
erryville							
000	5529 Beaudry	2BD/1BA					
un 2-4		510-280-2105					
AK		Sara Garabedian					
eward							
000	3228 Monika Lane	3BD/2.5BA					
un 2-5		510-873-7745					
rtial CA Realty		Angela D. Burgess					
000	2808 Sandalwood	4BD/2BA					
un 2-4		800-847-1356x2607					
rtial CA Realty		Reina & Isabel Reina					
000	29 Highgate Rd.	2+BD/2BA					
un 2-4		510-338-1339					
Union Real Estate		Gini Erck					
000	274 Willamette	2BD/1BA					
un 2-4		510-280-2145					
AK		Virginia Jones					
000	29 Highgate Rd.	2+BD/2BA					
un 2-4		510-338-1339					
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000	5125 Harbord Dr.	3BD/2.5BA					
un 2-4		510-339-0400					
ubb Co.		Elizabeth Dickson					
000	424 Staten Ave. #203	1BD/1BA					
un 2-4		510-531-7000 x238					
B. Bennett Realtors		Patsy Butler					
000	1037 - 89th Ave.	1BD/1BA					
un 2-4		510-339-4000					
air Better Homes		Linda Oliva					
000	2129 25th Ave.	2BD/1BA					
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rtial CA Realty		Agent					
000	29 Highgate Rd.	2+BD/2BA					
un 2-4		510-338-1339					
Union Real Estate		Steven Blasstt					
000	274 Willamette	2BD/1BA					
un 2-4		510-338-1354					
AK		Virginia Jones					
000	29 Highgate Rd.	2+BD/2BA					
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Keep America Strong!

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SPORTS

Friday, October 3, 2003

Section C



BALTIMORE HIGH'S Darrell Joyner runs for a short gain before being tackled by Alameda.

Ve'e runs all over Albany in rout

■ Alameda running back rushes for 179 yards and three touchdowns in 56-8 shellacking

By Scott Strain

STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Alameda High School running back Tavis Ve'e rushed for 179 yards on 17 carries and scored three touchdowns as the Hornets (2-1) manhandled Albany 56-8 last Friday afternoon at Cougar Field. Ve'e, who rushed for 252 yards in a 34-8 victory over Benicia last week, scored on runs of 23, 26 and 53 yards as Alameda built a 42-0 lead after three quarters.

PREP FOOTBALL

Hornets quarterback Mike Gillman completed 6 of 8 passes for 145 yards and two touchdowns.

"We've got to get things rolling," Albany coach Anthony Freeman said. "We've got to give ourselves a chance to win. We have to hit more, get more physical. We've got to work on a lot of things."

"What you saw out there today..."

Wasn't good. Albany really misses all-league running back Brad Phelps, who injured a knee before the season started and hasn't played at all. Freeman hopes to have him back for the

start of the Bay Shore Athletic League season, which starts in two weeks.

Albany's only score with 8:31 left in the fourth quarter when quarterback Drew Southern threw a 59-yard pass to Darrell Joyner. That started a three-touchdown outburst in a little less than a minute.

Ramsey Moyer took the ensuing kickoff back 90 yards for a touchdown to give Alameda a 49-8 lead. One play later, Jonathon Ve'e, Tavis' cousin, intercepted a tipped Southern pass and ran it back 24 yards for the final Alameda score.

Alameda scored on all five possessions in the first half, piling up a 35-0 lead as the Albany offense, for the most part, sputtered.

tered.

Down 21-0, the Cougars finally got something going in the early part of the second quarter. Southern threw 15 yards to Jeremy Slaughter for Albany's initial first down with 7:34 left in the half. Shea Harding ran 18 yards to the Alameda 44 and Slaughter then ran 8 yards to the 36.

But Harding was stopped for no gain on the next play and then Southern was sacked for a 7-yard loss back to the 43. On a fourth-and-nine, Southern completed an 8-yard pass to Harding, but it was a yard short of the first down and the Hornets took over.

Albany got the ball to start the

See ALBANY, Page 2

AL NOTEBOOK

Scales has seen it all

By Orlando Molina

STAFF WRITER

IEDMONT HIGH SCHOOL girls golf coach Tommy Scales has been around the block. Come to look at it, at age 70, Scales has been around the block enough times to wear out the element.

With more than 50 years of experience accumulated in and out of golf, he has his finger planted on the pulse of players and knows how to earn their respect while getting most out of them.

But that wasn't necessarily case 18 years ago when he was in his first year as thelanders' coach.

Starting out as the boys' coach, Scales encountered a lot of resistance, especially from his senior captain.

"This kid was a country club," Scales said. "He thought new it all."

Scales said the player was arrogant that he challenged to an 18-hole match at the Belmont Country Club. Big mistake.

It was the best thing that had happened. It was chance to show this kid I could teach and I could," he said.

There was no contest, said Scales, who had his student

See BSAL, Page 2

CAL NOTEBOOK

Berkeley learning quickly

By Phil Jensen

STAFF WRITER

THE STREAK HAS remained alive for the Berkeley High School volleyball team at the start of the Alameda Contra Costa League season.

Under first-year coach Mauro Prieto, the Yellow Jackets have their first three ACCAL matches this year. Results of Friday's match against Encinal were not available at press

time. Berkeley has lost an ACCAL match since entered the league in 2000, a total of 42 matches.

But the Yellow Jackets returned a tough test Tuesday night. De Anza, and Encinal another big challenge. Berkeley defeated De Anza 25-19, 18-25, 17, 15-25, 15-9. Encinal ended with Berkeley for the AL lead at press time.

The Yellow Jackets have four seniors, and the beginning of the season was a learning process. Berkeley has a record outside league

"We're looking better. Our season was so tough," Prieto said.

Berkeley faced University-Francisco, Bishop O'Dowd Castro Valley in the early season, and finished fifth in a tournament in Santa Rosa.

"We would say the team's strength is in defense," Prieto

See ACCAL, Page 2



BERKELEY HIGH defensive lineman Julian James (51) runs for a 55-yard touchdown return on a fumble recovery.

TUE NAM TON/STAFF

Cokes comes up big vs. O'Dowd

■ Berkeley running back carries the load rushing for 168 yards and game-sealing touchdown

By Mike McGreehan

STAFF WRITER

OKLAND — Talk about a workhorse. Berkeley High School's Antione Cokes sure fit the bill last Saturday afternoon.

All the junior running back did was carry the ball an astounding 36 times for 168 yards, the last of which was a 1-yard touchdown run with 42.4 seconds left to help the Yellow Jackets seal a 30-21 nonleague football win over host Bishop O'Dowd.

Aaron Miles added two touchdowns and provided the spectacular plays. But Cokes was the main go-to guy for the Yellow Jackets (1-1), who withstood a strong O'Dowd comeback attempt after having built a 17-0

lead.

"He's an incredible running back," Berkeley coach Matt Bissell said of Cokes. "He's the guy we're going to rely on all season long."

Cokes did the bulk of his work in the second half, carrying the ball 23 times for 140 yards as Berkeley looked to use the clock.

Cokes had a run of 11 yards, a couple of 13-yarders, and efforts of 14, 15, and 20 in his repertoire.

For the most part, though, he was a dependable grind-it-out guy, gaining yards in increments of single digits, as Berkeley moved the yardsticks and ate precious time off the clock.

Still, three dozen carries is a lot for an NFL running back, let alone a high school player — one who is a 5-foot-9, 170-pound junior.

"We have to ride the horse that gets us there," Bissell said.

"He's got a week to rest up and get ready for the next game. Theo Johnson did a great job of coming in and spelling him, so we're looking to bring (Johnson) in more often also."

Johnson added 23 yards on six carries.

Cokes' second-half statistics pretty much tell the story of the game, as both teams were sluggish in the first half.

The Yellow Jackets were just a tad less sluggish than O'Dowd (2-1).

Berkeley got on the scoreboard first when Aaron Miles ran a punt back 65 yards with 1:11 left in the first quarter. Roberto Meneses booted the extra point for a 7-0 Yellow Jackets lead.

In the second quarter, an apparent 74-yard touchdown pass from Jeff Spellman to Miles was nullified by a block in the back. Still, the Yellow Jackets moved the ball to the 50-yard line on the play and continued from there,

controlling play for nearly the rest of the half.

Berkeley culminated the drive by going for a field goal with four down and inches to go on the O'Dowd 5. Meneses' 22-yard attempt sailed true, as the Yellow Jackets assumed a 10-0 halftime lead.

Berkeley's lead improved to 17-0 on a 20-yard pass from Spellman to Miles at 8:26 of the third quarter. But O'Dowd soon seemed to find its game, scoring two touchdowns within a span of 14 seconds.

First, Jared Jegaraj ran 4 yards. Moments later, Jegaraj recovered a Berkeley fumble at the Yellow Jackets 28, setting up a touchdown pass from Drew Glover to Chris Hopkins on the next play, as O'Dowd pulled within three points at 17-14 with 3:06 left in the third quarter.

The turn of events seemed to

See BERKELEY, Page 2

By Phil Jensen

STAFF WRITER

The Encinal High School football team provided many big plays in its 19-6 victory over St. Mary's on Saturday.

But perhaps the biggest one occurred with 23 seconds left in the first half.

The Jets' Andrew Dominguez blocked a punt by David Pezzola and dived on the ball in the end zone, giving visiting Encinal a 12-0 advantage. St. Mary's was never able to completely close the gap.

"I just hit a move, broke inside and jumped up as high as I could," Dominguez said. "(Jason Walker) helped break (the play) up."

Drew Dozier later made two big fourth-quarter plays to ice the win for the Jets. The senior running back/defensive back produced the final touchdown of the game on a 53-yard run, then snagged an interception on the Panthers' next series. He finished with a game-high 121 yards rushing.

St. Mary's outgained Encinal 246-203 but turned the ball over four times, including three fumbles. The Panthers also only scored once in three trips inside the red zone.

See ST. MARY'S, Page 2

BRIEFS

Yellow Jacket Golf Classic

The inaugural Yellow Jacket Golf Classic, benefiting the boys basketball program at Berkeley High School, will be held Oct. 13 at the San Geronimo Golf Course. The tournament will use a scramble format with an 11 a.m. check-in and 12:30 p.m. start. The cost for individuals is \$135, which includes a chicken and rib dinner. The cost for a foursome is \$500 and dinner is \$40. For information call Steve Roberts at 510-520-0644 or e-mail at steve@berkeley.org.

Cal lacrosse clinic

Cal Berkley's Women's Lacrosse Team is hosting a lacrosse clinic for all levels Nov. 8-9 at Maxwell Field at Cal. For information call Mary Beth Noel at 510-643-4511 or e-mail at mbnoel@uc Berkeley.edu. Registration forms are available at www.cal-bears.com.

Lamorinda Baseball Club seeks players

The Lamorinda Baseball Club 10-under traveling team is looking for three players to add to the team. The program is based in Moraga and is composed of players and coaches from the Moraga Pony and Lafayette

Little League All-Star teams. The team participates in the USSSA/Super Series tournaments. Players must not turn 11 before Aug. 1, 2004. For information call Rick Rider at 925-943-2066 or 925-376-1813, or e-mail at riders2001@comcast.net.

Sharks' free skate

A free skate with the San Jose Sharks will be held Sunday, Oct. 5 at 3 p.m. at Berkeley Iceland. This event includes a question and answer session with Sharks players, coaches and broadcasters, and a visit with the Sharks mascot. For information call 408-999-5823 or visit sharks.com.

Coaches needed

Oakland High School is looking for coaches for all sports. E-mail val-abad@excite.com.

Rowers wanted

The Oakland Strokes' nationally recognized junior rowing program is accepting registrations from high school students for the 2003-2004 season. No experience is necessary. Visit the club's Web site at www.oaklandstrokes.org or call 925-837-1135 for more information.

Fishing tournament

The Oakland Casting Club will host the Northwestern Fly, Spin, and Bait Casting Championship on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 4-5 at the McCrea Park Casting Ponds, located at Cason and Aliso streets, just off the Warren Freeway (Highway 13).

The first day, which runs from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., features six events that will have contestants casting for accuracy and distance.

The second day, which runs from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., features four events where contestants cast for accuracy and distance.

Members of the Oakland Casting Club, Golden Gate Angling & Casting Club-San Francisco; San Jose Fly Fishers, Long Beach Casting Club and Seattle Casting Club will participate.

Benefit golf tournament

The first Children's Benefit Golf Tournament will be held Monday, Oct. 20 at the Monarch Bay Golf Complex in San Leandro. The event will benefit the Oakland Childhood Language Center, which helps children overcome significant language and/or learning difficulties. There is no entry

deadline, but there is a limit of 144 entrants. The \$125 donation fee includes green fees, carts and lunch, among other things. There will be various contests. The shotgun start will be at 12:30 p.m. For further information, contact Clyde Minar at 451-1906 or Gregg Kosmos at 531-4037. Checks should be made payable to the CLDC and sent c/o Clyde D. Minar, 1547 Lakeside Drive, Oakland 94612.

St. Joseph coaching openings

St. Joseph Notre Dame High School is looking for boys varsity and junior varsity soccer coaches and a boys varsity tennis coach. For further information, contact athletic director Dan Curry at 814-7146.

Willie Stargell Memorial Easter Classic

Encinal High School is looking for one team to fill its eight-team baseball tournament to be held April 10-16 at the College of Alameda. There is a three game guarantee with the possibility of five (pool play). For information call Jim Saunders at 510-502-0567 or 510-749-9458.

Alameda High School seeks coaches

Alameda High School is looking for a women's assistant varsity soccer coach. Previous high school or E/D level coaching experience is required. A women's head junior varsity coach is also needed. For information call the athletic office at 337-7011.

California High School seeks football game

California High School's junior varsity football team in San Ramon is looking for a game on Oct. 10. For information call Fred Albano at 925-803-7412.

Softball league seeks volunteers

The Oakland Girls Softball League (OGSL) is seeking volunteers for the 2004 spring season. Positions available include team managers, coaches, assistants and board members. The OGSL is a volunteer-run nonprofit organization, affiliated with the Amateur Softball Association, promoting community and sportsmanship through softball. Visit www.OGSL.org or call the league hotline at 339-7268 for more information.

Chabot College softball classes

Softball pitching classes for 8-14 will be held at Chabot College Hayward under the direction of softball coach Ella Vilche Oct. 10-16. The cost is \$50. For information call Ella Vilche at 510-723-6211 or e-mail at evilche@chabotcollege.edu.

Free baseball lessons

The Bishop O'Dowd High School baseball team is offering free baseball lessons for boys and girls ages 10-13 at Triple Play Ballparks (2055 Adams Ave.) in Castro Valley on Wednesdays from 4-5 p.m. The program will run until November.

The program is the O'Dowd team's community service production will be provided by O'Dowd coach Joel Kauffman and a rotation of players. Triple Play Batting will also provide additional commentary time for facility use.

Each two-hour session is for 12 players, and each player is to one session per month. Call 568-BALL to reserve a spot.

THIS WEEK'S FOOTBALL GAMES

ACCAL

Encinal at Berkeley

■ WHERE: Berkeley High School, 2223 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Berkeley

■ WHEN: 7 p.m.

■ LAST WEEK: Encinal beat St. Mary's 19-6, Berkeley beat Bishop O'Dowd 30-21

■ RECORDS: Encinal 2-0-1, Berkeley 1-1

■ FACTS: The Jets defense forced the Panthers to cough up the ball six times with one interception for four turnovers. Running back Drew Dozier provided much of the offense racking up 161 of the team's 203 total yards with two scores. Yellow Jackets running back Antone Cokes was equally effective, rushing 36 times for 168

yards and a touchdown.

El Cerrito at Alameda

■ WHERE: Thompson Field, Clement Ave. and Walnut Street, Alameda

■ WHEN: 7 p.m.

■ RECORDS: El Cerrito 1-1, Alameda 2-1

■ LAST WEEK: El Cerrito tied Castlemont 0-0, Alameda beat Albany 56-8

■ FACTS: The Gauchos have gone five quarters without a score, but their defense has allowed just 14 points in the last seven quarters. The Hornets' Tavis Ve'e averaged more than 10 yards a carry against the Cougars for 179 yards and three touchdowns. Alameda's defense limited Albany to 39 yards rushing and the Hornets

forced four Cougar turnovers.

Nonleague

Albany at Oakland Tech

■ WHERE: Oakland Tech High School, 4351 Broadway, Oakland

■ WHEN: 7:30 p.m.

■ RECORDS: Albany 0-3, Oakland Tech 1-1

■ LAST WEEK: Albany lost to Alameda 56-8, Oakland Tech lost to Pinole Valley 21-6

■ FACTS: The Cougars were nearly outrushed as a team by Alameda's star running back Tavis Ve'e. Ve'e amassed 179 rushing yards, compared to Albany's 191. The Bulldogs surrendered 21 unanswered points to the Spartans.

menting on O'Dowd's third-quarter surge. "We told them we could play well as long as we keep playing within ourselves."

The Yellow Jackets soon were tested again, as Glover connected with Tommy Hanson on a 63-yard touchdown pass, pulling O'Dowd within two points with 11:18 left in the game.

Both teams had their share of turnovers, though O'Dowd's mistakes proved more costly. And three fourth-quarter interceptions surely stifled any chance of an O'Dowd comeback.

The game ended with Berke-

ley defenders tackling Glover inside the Yellow Jackets 1-yard line. Once again, the Dragons fell short of their goal.

"You're always going to have some bad breaks," Bissell said. "It's a testament to this team that we were able to stay strong and have a good fourth quarter."

Surely, the Yellow Jackets showed both fortitude and resilience during a difficult stretch. And Cokes and those blocking for him provided a big boost by grinding out the yards and chewing up the clock.

tackle with 5:45 left in third quarter. The game was delayed approximately 30 minutes while the paramedics were called. Jones was taken off the field on a stretcher and to the hospital.

Freeman said after the game that Jones had suffered a bruised back but should be OK.

Cerrito's eighth sack of the game.

El Cerrito coach George Austin said he couldn't have been prouder of his defense.

"There were some great individual efforts out there tonight, and I think playing tough teams outside of our league is going to prepare us well for the rest of the season," he said.

Encinal scored its first points on the last play of the first quarter. Donovan Brown rushed 3 yards down the right sideline for a 6-0 Encinal lead. That remained the score until Dominguez's blocked punt for a score.

St. Mary's opened the second half with a long drive, but Encinal's David Song recovered a fumble at the Encinal 15 to end the threat. The Panthers' next drive also stalled at the Jets' 4-yard-line.

Dominguez had a big sack on St. Mary's next possession, and five plays later, Dozier intercepted Pezzola and returned the ball into St. Mary's territory with 6:33 left. St. Mary's was unable to move onto Encinal's side of the field after that.

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PREP FOOTBALL POLL

Rank	School	Record	Comment
1.	De La Salle	3-0	Spartans defense allowing just 125.7 yards per game
2.	Foothill	3-0	Schedule keeps getting tougher — De La Salle is next
3.	Antioch	3-0	Look no further than Aaron Straaten when big play is needed
4.	Pittsburg	2-0-1	Pirates lucky they didn't leave James Logan with a loss
5.	Miramonte	2-1	Attention DFLA opponents — Matadors play some 'D' too
6.	Hayward	3-0	Farmers look like new bully on the block in HAAL
7.	Monte Vista	2-1	Mustangs have trampled last two opponents 57-7
8.	Skyline	2-2	Titans had their chance late in game but couldn't catch Foothill
9.	James Logan	1-1	Missed PAT costs Colts against Pittsburg
10.	Campolindo	3-0	Balanced Cougars offense pumping out 39 points per game

Others receiving votes: Clayton Valley (3-0), San Ramon Valley (3-0), San Leandro (1-2), John Swett (1-2). Times football poll incorporates all East Bay high schools and is compiled by the staffs of Contra Costa Times.

sionally in Portugal and Austria the last three years.

Berkeley returns two second-round team-all-ACCAL selections in outside hitters Nadia Qabazard and Rosey Moorhead.

SERVE' EM UP: Many outstanding volleyball service performances were dished out by individuals in the ACCAL in the last eight days.

On Tuesday, Encinal's Christina Walker had 33 service points, including 22 straight service points in the third game, and 16 aces in the Jets' 25-18, 25-22, 25-1 win over El Cerrito.

on time for matches, but that's it," he said. "There aren't enough coaches that teach the game."

Not only does Scales teach the game, but he teaches the game within the game, going out of his way to keep lessons fun. One of the unique ways he does it comes during his chipping lessons.

With 40 feet between his players and the green, Scales will put his golf cart eight yards in front of the player and have her chip over the 4 1/2-foot obstacle.

"I teach visualization," he said. "I tell them there's nothing but water out there and they have to teach their ball how to swim or it will drown. They have to make something out of nothing."

Another exercise he employs involves having five balls spaced four feet apart around the green for five of his players. The purpose being that every player can see the movement of each putt from various positions, while trying to keep each putt within three feet of the cup. He said it's a good way to keep them focused.

"Things get boring if I don't do anything different," he said. "I never want it to get boring."

Further, after the children have finished college, the property could continue to be a vacation home, you could even become an eventual retirement residence. Homes in college communities are considered by many experts to be among the best residential investments in the country today, as the attraction of such communities continues to grow, especially if the community is small but because of the college, has fairly sophisticated cultural and commercial amenities.

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OW PLAYING

ow are capsule reviews of movies being at area theaters. The reviewers are Mary F. Pols, Times; Robert W. ter, Chris Hewitt, Steven Rea,ight Ridder Newspapers; Glenn Bell, Bruce Noveck, Sheila Morris; David Germain, Christy Moore, Jocelyn Noveck, Sheila Morris; Culp, Ben Nuckles, Malcolm Rit, and Matt Wolf, Associated Press; Stephen Holden, David Kehr, Elvis Mitchell and A.O. Scott, New York Times; Jamie Bernard, Jack Mathews, New York Daily News; Evan Henerson, Strauss, Glenn Whipp, Los Angeles Daily News; Manohla Dargis, Kevin Thomas and Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times; Ed Bark, Nancy Churnin, Tim Vognar, Philip Wuntch, Dallas Morning News; Robert Philpot, Fort Worth Star-Telegram; Jay Boyar, Roger Moore, Orlando Sentinel; Joe Bataille, Sacramento Bee; Ann Hornaday and Stephen Hunter, Washington Post.

MERICAN SPLENDOR: This biography about comic-book writer Harvey Pekar, voted best feature film Sundance, is as refreshingly original as its subject. The acerbic Cleveland-based bard of the banal inspired offbeat collage of animation, amazement and documentary that's banquet of sweet-and-sour wit andudging humanism. The filmmakers provide a three-point perspective on kar, variously personified by a significantly irritable Paul Giamatti, caricatures by comic artists including R. Crumb, and also by Pekar himself. If caterwauling at Giamatti, "He ain't lookin' nuthin' like me." At first, Pekar's not a guy you want to end 90 minutes with. But that's the point: the shub you cross the street avoid is the shub savant whose look at the world enlarges your view. — C. Rickey. (R: language.) 1 hr, 41 minutes. B+

NOTHING ELSE: Woody Allen's 16th at youth comedy comes off a bit as the Muppet Babies having a go at "Me Hall." Stars Jason Biggs and Kristin Ricci deliver all the infatuation neuroses, but with a preening juu-high self-absorption that packs none of the pathos of Allen's best movies. Biggs plays a young Allen incarnation, an up-and-coming comedy writer in New York who falls in love at first sight with girlfriend-from-Italy Amanda (Ricci). It's a nice treat catch Allen as a supporting player, here he can behave with more out-and-about abandon. — D. Germain. (R: some drug use and some sexual

references.) 1 hour, 48 minutes. C

"CABIN FEVER": Filled with coarse comedy, a flesh-eating contagion and backwoods mayhem, this impressively icky, witty scare pic from director Eli Roth combines the hillbilly-country horror of the first "Blair Witch Project" with the viral decimation and paranoia of "28 Days Later." The premise: Final exams are over and five college students are ready for a frolic in the country. The scene at the cabin is pretty idyllic until strange things start happening. — S. Rea. (R: violence, gore, sex, nudity, profanity, drugs.) 1 hour, 34 minutes. B

"CAPTURING THE FRIEDMANS": If you're at a cocktail party this summer and you're chatting with two other people who've just discovered that they've both seen this fascinating new documentary from novice director Andrew Jarecki, consider yourself conversationally dead in the water. The only reasonable solution is to get out and see it for yourself so you can join in the debate about the Friedmans, a Long Island family that fell apart in the late 1980s after the dad was accused of sexually molesting a dozen or so neighborhood boys. Was he railroaded? Did he do it? You decide. You won't leave feeling cheery, but this roller coaster of a film is deeply challenging. — M. Pols. (NR) 1 hour, 47 minutes. A-

"COLD CREEK MANOR": A pair of yuppies (Dennis Quaid and Sharon Stone) grow tired of Manhattan and buy themselves a swell country house in foreclosure. But the previous occupant (Stephen Dorff) just got out of jail and he's not happy about losing the old homestead. Woefully predictable, with a script full of horror movie pitfalls. Interestingly straightforward, though, in that the bad guy is the bad guy and no one ever bothers to loss a red herring. Spooky in places, thanks to the arty mood established by director Mike Figgis. — M. Pols. (R: violence, language and some sexuality.) 1 hour, 58 minutes. C-

"DICKIE ROBERTS: FORMER CHILD STAR": Dickie Roberts (David Spade) is a former child star whose career as a celebrity has bottomed out into a present-day life as a parking valet. When he hears about a part in the new Rob Reiner film he'd be perfect for, he jumps. The problem, as Reiner (playing himself) explains, is that Dickie can never understand the character since he never really had a childhood. So he hires one, setting up the movie's parade of

pranks and pratfalls. — T. Maurostad (PG-13: crudity, language, drug references.) 1 hour, 32 minutes. C+

"DIRTY PRETTY THINGS": Stephen Frears' darkly intriguing film is set in a London hotel called the Baltic. With its fluffy monogrammed bathrobes, the place aspires to be posh, but there's a graffiti visible in the wood-paneled elevator, a prostitute regularly entertains in Room 510 and every now and again, someone might stuff a human heart in a toilet. Night porter Okwe (Chiwetel Ejiofor), an illegal immigrant who was a doctor back in his native Nigeria, sets out to unravel the mystery of the heart. Along the way, he becomes wrapped up in the troubles of Turkish immigrant Senay (Audrey Tautou), who has a crush on him, and runs afoul of hotel chef de staff Sean Juan (a diabolical Sergi Lopez), who can and will sell anything on the black market. The mystery propels the story, but it is the palpable desperation of the immigrants that sells it. — M. Pols. (R: sexual content, disturbing images and language.) 1 hour, 47 minutes. A-

"DUPLEX": "Meet the Tenant" might be a better title. A young pair of new homeowners played by Ben Stiller and Drew Barrymore are driven to murderous actions by the desire to rid themselves of an awful old-adjacent tenant. A prime example of a funny movie that flounders in its second half, and as a result, will likely leave audiences lukewarm. This will probably be blamed on the darkness of the comedy, but it's really more about the inability to sustain it. One thing for sure: director Danny DeVito ("War of the Roses," "Throw Momma from the Train") is drawn to meanness. — M. Pols. (PG-13: sexual content, language, some violence.) 1 hour, 29 minutes. C+

"THE EMBALMER": This genuinely creepy erotic thriller could keep David Lynch tossing at night. It features a dwarf taxidermist named Peppino and his handsome but not-too-bright apprentice. What the boy doesn't know is that his new friend moonlights for the Mafia, embalming corpses with cocaine. Peppino hires his new assistant with money, champagne and a steady diet of hookers, but his real obsession is for male companionship. When Valerio takes a girlfriend, Peppino turns genuinely threatening. — G. Lovell. (NR, but could be R for nudity and sex.) 1 hour, 44 minutes. B

"THE FIGHTING TEMPTATIONS": Cuba Gooding Jr. is Darrin Hill, a life-

long hustler who's just been fired from a job and goes home to rural Georgia to collect an inheritance. But his late aunt's will stipulates that he must take over her beloved Beulah Baptist Church choir before he can collect. Even though he knows nothing about music, he cons his way into the job and must get the team ready for the big game. The "team" is a choir he recruits, including the angel-voiced Beyoncé Knowles as a "fallen woman," assorted convicts and others. The movie is neither graceful nor smart, but it will do until a real romantic comedy comes along. — R. Moore. (PG-13: some sexual references.) 2 hours. C

"FINDING NEMO": Another delight of the imagination from Pixar, set under the sea, in the realm of fish who talk real estate, sharks who try to be better denizens of the deep, and lobsters named Mike, Nemo, a small clown fish, is plucked from the ocean and dropped into a fish tank in a dentist's office in Sydney. His timid father, Marlin, travels many leagues to find him, accompanied by a dopy but very funny tang fish (voiced by Ellen DeGeneres). The ideal blend of sentiment and sparkling humor, perfect for kids, charming for parents, and so good it's likely to appeal to a few souls who are neither. — M. Pols. (G) 1 hour, 41 minutes. A

"FREAKY FRIDAY": The world didn't need a remake of the 1976 mother-daughter classic "Freaky Friday." Yet Disney's new version, starring Jamie Lee Curtis and Lindsay Lohan, is indeed: funny, good-hearted and loaded with genuine charm of its own. They play a mother and daughter constantly at war who, after eating a special fortune cookie, magically switch bodies, and find a new appreciation for each other. Blissfully free of the poor taste that plagues so many youth movies, with plenty of genuine laugh-out-loud moments. — M. Pols. (PG: mild thematic elements, some language.) 1 hour, 33 minutes. B+

"THE GIRL FROM PARIS": Sandrine (Mathilde Seigner) is a tall, sturdy goddess of a woman who has a good job as an Internet instructor, but at 30 has had enough of hectic Parisian life. She quits her job and enrolls in agricultural college, becomes the top student, and her advisor convinces a taciturn goat farmer deep in the Rhone Alps to sell her his place, provided he can stay on until a family home becomes available. She is a pillar of competence and self-confidence, but

OPENING TODAY

"BOLLYWOOD/HOLLYWOOD" (PG-13)

In order to foil his mother's aggressive matchmaking intentions, a young Indian millionaire hires a woman to pose as his bride-to-be. "CASA DE LOS BABYS" (R) Ensemble drama from director John Sayles, centering on six American women who have traveled to Latin America hoping to adopt babies. "DOG DAYS" (NR)

On a sweltering summer weekend in Vienna, a half-dozen loosely connected characters try to survive the heat and each other.

"OUT OF TIME" (PG-13)

After a double homicide in a small Florida Keys town, the police chief (Denzel Washington) discovers all

the evidence points to him. He must solve the crime before his colleagues decide he did it.

"PREY FOR ROCK AND ROLL" (R) Gina Gershon stars in this tale of an all-woman rock band struggling to break out of L.A.'s club scene in the late 1980s.

"SCHOOL OF ROCK" (PG-13)

Jack Black plays a down-on-his-luck musician who takes a job as a substitute teacher and decides to turn his students into a rock 'n' roll band. Directed by Richard Linklater.

"TIBET: CRY OF THE SNOW LION" (NR)

An extensive documentary about life in Tibet, made over the course of 10 years and narrated by Martin Sheen.

pics, one suffers mainly from trying to cram too much detail into two hours. Yet in a sense, there's not enough. This unimaginative dramatization rarely if ever strays from a canonical, by-the-book depiction of the man.

— G. Dowell. (PG-13: mild language, violence.) 1 hour, 52 minutes. C+

"JEEPERS CREEPERS 2": It's your basic flying-monster-from-hell-visceral-attacks-blaud-of-indistinguishable-young-people exercise. Every 23 years, a bat-winged man-monster awakens in some deep rural part of the country to feed on human prey for 23 days. It's Night 22 of the Creeper's latest binge, and a bus school bus full of champion athletes breaks down in the middle of nowhere. You know where this is headed. The movie tries to stand out from the formulaic pack without skimping on the thrills. For the most part it succeeds, and in the ugly world of gory horror, that's kind of a beautiful thing. — B. Strauss. (R: violence, language, children in jeopardy.) 1 hour, 46 minutes. B

"LE DIVORCE": Pleasant enough, filled with lovely Parisian settings and appealing actors, but ultimately insignificant. While living in Paris, a pair of American sisters (Kate Hudson and Naomi Watts) learn how differently the French approach life. They like fine cuisine and elegant ingenuity and expect indulgence. Imagine! The supporting cast includes Leslie Caron, Thierry Lhermitte, Gérard Clouseau, Stockard Channing and Sam Waterston. Subplots about a disputed painting and a very angry cuckolded husband fail to save the limp story line. When it's over, you may find yourself with a strong urge to eat some foie gras, but incapable of describing what the film was about or why it mattered. — M. Pols. (PG-13: mature thematic elements and sexual content.) 1 hour, 55 minutes. C+

"LOST IN TRANSLATION": Everything about writer-director Sofia Coppola's wry and wistful film is lovely, and that includes, of all things, the presence and performance of Bill Murray. He plays an aging American actor in Tokyo to film commercials for a Japanese whiskey. Bored, depressed about his lousy marriage and jet-lagged, he meets a young American woman (Scarlett Johansson) who has accompanied her photographer husband (Giovanni Ribisi) to Japan. They end up wandering Tokyo together, developing a fleeting but intense friendship. Murray is at his absolute best, and Coppola proves she's a director to watch. Simple and small, but this film has a special shimmer about it. — M. Pols. (R: some sexual content.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. A

"MAMBO ITALIANO": Gay and Italian — the comic possibilities of "Mambo Italiano" are mind-boggling. The reality is less so. No Godfathers and drag queens here, just a broad farce about a nice Italian boy who wants to get an apartment with another nice Italian boy in Montreal's tradition-bound Little Italy. Part of the problem is that Angelo (Luke Kirby), the narrator and son who is trying to move out of the family home, has no chemistry with Nino (Peter Miller), his alleged soulmate. Much of the movie focuses on Angelo's immigrant parents (Ginette Reno and Paul Sorvino) and their reaction to the brave new world of a gay son. No worries: Everything will be resolved over a fine tomato sauce. — S. Norman-Culp. (R: violence, sexual situations.) 1 hour, 28 minutes. C

"MATCHSTICK MEN": Ridley Scott should be congratulated; he's the first director in years to keep Nicolas Cage's appalling hamminess in check. Cage is actually decent here, playing an obsessive-compulsive artist whose life gets extremely complicated when the 14-year-old daughter (Alison Lohman) he never knew he had takes an interest in the family business. Cage's tics and twitches are kept to a minimum, the rest of the cast — including Sam Rockwell as Cage's partner — is fine and the movie takes an appealing dark turn. One problem: The big plot twist is fairly transparent. — M. Pols. (PG-13: thematic elements, violence, some sexual content and language.) 2 hours. B-

See REVIEWS, Page C4

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Alameda County

Act 1 and 2

128 Center Street, Berkeley 510-548-7249

Casa de Los Babys (R) 4:45, 7:15, 9:45.

The Event (R) 4:30, 7, 9:30.

Albany Twin

115 Solano Ave, Albany 510-524-9568

Lost In Translation (R) 11:30, 2, 4:30, 7, 10:30.

Thirteen (R) 12, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:40.

AMC Bay Street 16

614 Shellmound St, Emeryville 510-457-4262

Anything Else (R) 2:30, 5, 8:05, 10:40.

Cold Creek Manor (R) 7:05, 9:45.

The Concert for George (PG-13) 2:15, 5, 8:15, 10:40.

Duplex (PG-13) 1:20, 3:30, 6:05, 8:15, 10:20.

Shattuck Cinemas

2230 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley 510-644-2992

Anything Else (R) 4:15, 9.

Bollywood/Hollywood 1:15, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40.

Matchstick Men (PG-13) 1:10, 4:05, 7:05, 9:45.

Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star

(R) 1:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45.

Emmy

9:45, 10:45, 11:45, 12:45.

Find Me a Girl (R) 1:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45.

Get Out of Time (R) 1:05, 4:05, 7:10, 9:40.

Seabiscuit (PG-13) 1:15, 4:10, 7:10, 9:40.

Shattered Lives (R) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:45.

Once Upon a Time in Mexico (R) 1:30, 3:45, 5:45, 7:10, 8:10, 9:30, 10:45.

Open Range (R) 1:05, 4:05, 7:10, 9:40.

Seabiscuit (PG-13) 1:15, 4:10, 7:10, 9:40.

Shattered Lives (R) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:45.

Events

AGE

ORA THEATRE COMPANY — "Old Neighborhood" by David Imer, through Oct. 19. When Bobby turns to his childhood stomping grounds, the people and places of his life unexpectedly cast shadows on the present. to \$40. Wednesday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. Zellerbach Playhouse, Ashby and Shattuck avenues, Berkeley. 866-488-3399 or <http://theater.berkeley.edu>

POPULAR MUSIC

ADDAM OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA — Facing East, Oct. 11, 7 p.m. Jazz fused with classical Indian music. \$15 to \$20. St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. 415-703-0330 or www.facingeast.com.

ASHKENAZI — Djayla Kunda Kouyaté, Oct. 3, 9:30 p.m. \$13. Zydaco Flames, Oct. 4, 9:30 p.m. \$13. Brass Menagerie, Oct. 7, 8:30 p.m. \$9. Saus Piquante, Oct. 8, 8:30 p.m. \$9. Harry Best and Shabang, Tropical Vibrations, Oct. 10, 9:30 p.m. \$13. Ze Manei, Oct. 11, 9:30 p.m. \$13. 1317 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley. 510-525-5055 or www.ashkenaz.com.

BECKETT'S IRISH PUB — Sterling Dervish, Oct. 3.

Nicole McRoy, Oct. 4, Oct. 8 and Oct. 11.

Bourbon Legends, Oct. 9.

For ages 21 and older. Music at 9:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 2271 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-647-1790 or www.beckettsirishpub.com.

BLAKE'S ON TELEGRAPH — The Steve Gannon Band and Mz. Dee Mondays, \$4.

For ages 18 and older. Music at 9:30 p.m. 2367 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-848-0886 or www.blakesontheatre.com.

ENTRIMENTAL GROUP

EOPEL'S THEATRE (EGYPT) — "The Congregation" by Minnie Gibson and Erg Hayes, Oct. 11 through Nov. 1.

The church body runs the church and every preacher hired to lead it, unless one comes who cannot be moved.

Thursday through Saturday, 7 p.m.; Sunday 3 p.m. 5306 Foothill Blvd., Oakland. 510-436-4877 or www.egypttheatre.com.

VISION — "Assassins" by Stephenondheim and John Weidman, Oct. 3 through Oct. 12. Explore the lives of the people who tried, some successfully, to assassinate the president of the United States. May not be suitable for children.

Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. The Masque Playhouse, 35 Park Place, Point Richmond. 510-32-4031.

PENA CULTURAL CENTER — Live Arts Playback Theater Ensemble, Oct. 11, 8 p.m. The ensemble will act out stories from audience members speaking and musical improvisation.

3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-19-2568 or www.pena.org.

UFDIRE PRODUCTIONS — Wet Veronica Combs, Oct. 11, 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. A cabaret-style performance featuring spoken word, poetry, dance and song, performed by queer people of color.

to \$20. The Oakland Box Theatre, 528 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 415-61-6208.

N FRANCISCO SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL — "Love's Labour's Lost" by William Shakespeare, closing Oct. 19. A young king and his noblemen take a pact to swear off all distractions, including dating. When the princess of France arrives with her companions, all bets are off.

Duck Pond Meadow and Bellevue Street, Grand Avenue and Bellevue Street, Oakland. 415-422-2222 or www.stshakes.org.

OTGUN PLAYERS — "The Water Principle" by Eliza Anderson, through Oct. 19. Three people are thrown together on an abandoned land, each with conflicting notions on issues ranging from property development to what is needed to survive.

to \$20 general; \$12 seniors and students. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 7 p.m. The Eighth Street Studio, 2525 Eighth St., Berkeley. 510-04-8210 or www.othgungplayers.org.

BERKELEY DEPARTMENT OF HEATER, DANCE AND PERFORMANCE STUDIES — "Fee" by Peter Slazier and J.M. Coetzee, Oct. 3 through Oct. 19. The story of "Robinson Crusoe" is told from the point of view of a female castaway, in a political

and social perspective.

1000 11th St., Berkeley. 510-845-1000 or www.bdhps.org.

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DAVENPORT — "The Water Principle

Events

FROM PAGE C5

Berkeley, 510-525-5211 or www.berkeleyrep.org.

CAL PERFORMANCES — Takacs

Quartet, Oct. 5, 3 p.m. A program of music by Bartok, Mendelssohn and Brahms, featuring Richard Stoltzman on clarinet. Pre-performance talk at 2 p.m.

\$30 to \$52. UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall, Bancroft Way and Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley. 510-642-9988 or www.calperfs.berkeley.edu.

CROWDEN SCHOOL AND CENTER FOR MUSIC IN THE COMMUNITY —

Wei He and Miles Graber, Oct. 5, 3 p.m. Violinist Wei He and pianist Miles Graber will perform works by Bright Sheng, Beethoven, Strauss and Ysaye.

\$10 general; free for children 18 and younger. 1475 Rose St., Berkeley. 510-559-6910 or www.thecrowden-school.org.

FESTIVAL ANTIQUA — through Oct. 24

This year's festival explores medieval and early Renaissance music from Central and Eastern Europe "The Ladder of Gold," Oct. 4, 8 p.m.

Songs of the Balkan Sephardic Jews, performed by Bon Singer, Gari Hegebus, Shira Kammer and Tim Rayborn. "Kismet," Oct. 10, 8 p.m. A program of music from the culture of the Ottoman Empire, with classical Turkish music, folk music, Sufi songs and Balkan songs and dances performed by Gari Hegebus, Sonja Drakulich and Beth Bahia Cohen.

\$15 general; \$12 students and seniors. The Parish Hall of St. Alban's Church, 1501 Washington St., Albany. 510-488-2803 or www.firmayor.com.

FOUR SEASONS CONCERTS — "Distinguished Artists Season," Oct. 4 through April 17, 2004. A concert series featuring artists from many musical traditions, including pianists, vocalists and cellists.

Oct. 4, 7:30 p.m.: Rene Heredia, flamenco guitarist, with dancer "La Carmina."

\$25 to \$35. Calvin Simmons Theatre, 10 Tenth St., Oakland. 510-601-7919 or www.fourseasonsconcerts.com.

IVES STRING QUARTET — "Inspired By," Oct. 10, 8 p.m. A program featuring three string quartets inspired by other artists' works, including "Light Screens" by Andrew Norman,

"Kreutzer Sonata" by Leo Janacek and "Quartet in G minor, Op. 10," by Claude Debussy.

\$20 general; \$10 students. St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. 415-833-0727.

MUSIC SOURCES — The Vocal Virtuosity of the Castrati during their Twilight: Late 18th and Early 19th Centuries," Oct. 5, 4 p.m. Featuring soprano Angelo Manzotti and guitarist David Rogers.

\$18 general; \$15 seniors and students. 1000 The Alameda at Marin, Berkeley. 510-528-1685.

NEW CENTURY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA — "A Musical Halloween," Oct. 9 through Oct. 12. A Halloween-themed program with music by Purcell, Mendelssohn, Liszt, William Bolcom, Tony Price, William Grant Still and Michael Levine.

Oct. 9, 8 p.m.: St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. \$28 to \$39. 415-392-4400 or www.ncco.org.

SAN FRANCISCO BACH CHOIR —

Oct. 11, 8 p.m. A performance of J.S. Bach's Cantatas Nos. 4 and 106, and Cantata No. 4 by Andreas Hammer-schmidt.

\$22 to \$30 general; \$15 to \$18 students. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 114 Montecito Ave., Oakland. 415-441-4942 or www.sfbach.org.

OUTDOORS

BAY AREA RAIL TRAILS — A network of trails converted from unused railroad ways.

OHLCONE GREENWAY — A 3.75-mile paved trail converted from the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railway. Suitable for strollers and skaters. The

trails run under elevated BART tracks from Conlon and Key Streets in El Cerrito to Virginia and Acton Streets in Berkeley. 510-215-4382, 510-528-5759 or 510-644-6566.

SHEPHERD CANYON TRAIL — A 3-mile paved trail converted from the Sacramento Northern Rail Line. The tree-lined trail is gently sloping and generally follows Shepherd Canyon Road. Suitable for walkers and cyclists. Begins in Montclair Village behind McCaulou's Department Store on Medau Place and ends at Paso Robles Drive, Oakland. 510-238-7275.

BAY AREA RIDGE TRAIL — The Bay Area Ridge Trail, when completed will be a 40-mile regional trail system that will form a loop around the entire San Francisco Bay region, linking 75 public parks and open spaces to thousands of people and hundreds of communities. Hikes on portions of the trail are available through the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council. Call for meeting sites.

ALAMEDA COUNTY — "Tilden and Wildcat Bike Rides," Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. A vigorous ride through Tilden and Wildcat Canyon Regional Parks. Reservations required. Distance: 15 miles. Elevation gain: 2,000 feet. Difficulty: intermediate. Pace: fast. Meeting place: In front of the North Berkeley BART Station. 510-849-9650.

"Lake Chabot Bike Rides," Thursdays, 6:15 a.m. These rides are for strong beginners and intermediates to build skill, strength and endurance at a non-hammerhead pace. No one will be dropped. Reservations required.

Distance: 14 miles. Elevation gain: 1,000 feet. Difficulty: beginner to intermediate. Pace: moderate. Meeting place: Lake Chabot Road at the main entrance to the park. 510-468-3582. Free. 415-391-9300.

CRAB COVE VISITOR CENTER — At Crab Cove, you can see five underwater creatures and go into the San Francisco Bay, from land. You can also travel back in time to Alameda's past. The goal is to increase understanding of the environmental importance of San Francisco Bay and the ocean ecosystem.

"Aquatic Mammals," Oct. 4, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Discover marine mammal adaptations, their habitat needs and how to protect them. Wear clothes to get dirty.

"Terrestrial Mammals," Oct. 4, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Explore different life zones in California and where mammals choose to call home. Wear clothes to get dirty. For ages 7 and older.

"Reptile Rendezvous," Oct. 5 and Oct. 12, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Come meet the resident reptiles and learn about their fascinating ways of life.

"Life Under a Microscope," Oct. 5, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Use microscopes to view leaves and skin pores, insects and other small things. The program begins with a nature walk. For ages 6 and older.

"Sea Siblings," Oct. 7, 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. to noon. This event is for children ages 3 to 5 and a friend or sibling who is between the ages of 1 to 5 years old. The theme of this event is "Ants Homes Under-ground." Registration required.

"Estuary Explorers," Oct. 9, 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. This is for ages 6 to 8 years-old. Learn about "Ant Homes Under-ground," with a naturalist guide. Registration required. \$6 to \$8.

Free unless otherwise noted. 1252 McKay Ave., Alameda. 510-521-6887 or www.ebparks.org.

DUNSMUIR HOUSE AND GARDENS HISTORIC ESTATE — Nestled in the Oakland hills, the 40-acre Duns-muir House and Gardens estate includes the 37-room Neoclassical Revival Duns-muir Mansion, built by coal and lumber baron Alexander Duns-muir for his bride. Restored outbuildings set amid landscaped gardens surround the mansion.

MANSION TOURS — Docents will lead visitors on a guided tour through the Mansion's many rooms and floors. See the beautiful Tiffany skylight, the wood-paneled Billiard Room, the Grand Staircase, and the magnificent

dining room. Wear low-heeled, soft-soled shoes. No high heels allowed in the Mansion. Wednesday, 11 a.m. to noon. \$5 general; \$4 seniors and youths; free children under age 13.

ESTATE GROUNDS — through October The 50 acres of gardens and grounds at the mansion are open to the public. Free Self-Guided Grounds Tour booklets are available at Dinkel's Spiel House Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free.

DUNSMUIR HOUSE AND GARDENS HISTORIC ESTATE, 2960 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland. 925-275-9490 or 510-615-5555 or www.duns-muir.org.

FIFTY-PLUS ADVENTURE WALKS AND RUNS — The walks and runs are three-mile round-trips, lasting about one hour on the trail. All levels of ability are welcome. The walks are brisk, however, and may include some uphill terrain. Events are held rain or shine and on all holidays except Christmas and the Fifty-Plus Annual Fitness Weekend.

Castro Valley "Walk-A-Way," first Sunday, meet at 8 a.m.; leave at 8:15 a.m. Locations vary. 510-582-9568 or 510-795-7928.

Castro Valley Walk, second, third and fourth Sunday. Meet at 8 a.m.; leave at 8:15 a.m. Meet at the Eastshore Trail, Lake Chabot Park, at the entrance on Lake Chabot Road. 510-582-9568 or 510-795-7928.

Danville Walk, second Saturday, meet at 8 a.m. Call to confirm. Meet at the Iron Horse Trail, Danville. 925-855-1743.

Lafayette Walk, fourth Sunday, meet at 8 a.m. Meet at the Lafayette Reservoir. Call to confirm. 925-671-9354. Free. (650) 323-6160 or www.50plus.org.

KENNEDY GROVE REGIONAL RECREATION AREA — The 95-acre park contains picnic areas, horseshoe pits and volleyball courts among its grove of aromatic eucalyptus trees.

\$4 parking. Through September, daily. El Sobrante. 510-223-7840 or www.ebparks.org.

OAKLAND ZOO — The zoo includes a Children's Petting Zoo, the Skyride, a miniature train, a carousel, picnic grounds and a gift shop as well as the animals in site-specific exhibits, which allow them to roam freely. Included are "The African Savanna" with its two huge mixed-animal aviaries and 11 African Savanna exhibits: the Mahali Pa Tembo (Place of the Elephant) with African lions, giraffes, chimpanzees and more than 330 other animals from around the world; "Simba Pori," Swahili for "Lion Country," a spacious 1.5-acre habitat offering both a savanna and woodland setting for African lions; "Footprints from the Past," an anthropology exhibit showcasing 4 million years of human evolution and an actual "footpath" of the first hominids to emerge from the African savanna; "Sun Bear Exhibit," a state-of-the-art space the zoo has developed for its two sun bears, and Siamang Island, a state-of-the-art, barrier-free area that emulates the gibbons' native tropical rain forest habitat.

EXHIBIT — "Mountain Lions" ongoing. An exhibit designed to educate people about the mountain lion, its habitat, physiology, history in California, and myths that surround these mammals. In addition there is a film titled "Cougars: Elusive Predator" by the Discovery Channel in the Children's Theater. At the Education Center. Open daily during Zoo hours. Free with regular Zoo admission.

SPECIAL EVENT — "Family Sundown Safari," Oct. 4 and Oct. 5, 6 p.m. to 10 a.m. Come enjoy a fun and educational experience in the unique, natural environment of the Oakland Zoo.

Children and families can spend the evening with the animals and camp out in the meadow. Reservations required. 510-632-9525, ext. 131. Call for price.

Fall Lecture Series, Oct. 9. A silent auction begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by a private lecture at 7 p.m. in the Mammal Auditorium. 510-632-9525, ext. 124. Donation.

Chimpanzee Discovery Day, Oct. 11, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visitors will learn about chimpanzee behavior and conservation efforts. The zoo will have education and conservation stations, and there will be free children's activities.

Free with zoo admission.

"Wildlife Sketching Class," Oct. 11, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Professional artist Carolyne Griffin leads a sketching class for beginners and advanced students, with classroom instruction and studio work. To register, call 510-632-9525, ext. 142. A fee is charged.

\$7.50 general; \$4.50 seniors and children ages 2 to 14; free children under



ANIMA MUNDI DANCE COMPANY presents a special preview performance of "Mountains and Without End," adapted from Pulitzer-prize winner Gary Snyder's epic poem, Saturday October 4 at Yoshi's Jazz Club in Oakland. Dancer Yoshi Akiba (above), co-owner of Yoshi's Jazz Club performs in the production. Admission: \$10-15, sliding scale. Details: 510-233-5550. There will be other preview performances at Falkirk Cultural Center in San Rafael on Sunday, Oct. 5 at 2:30 p.m. Asian Art Museum in San Francisco will present "Mountains and Rivers without End" in the spring 2004. East meets West in this dance theater performance conceived, choreographed and adapted by artistic director Kathryn Roszak. "Mountains and Rivers without End," is an autobiographical poem of California nature poet Gary Snyder, journeying through real and mythical landscapes, from the American wilderness to pulsating urban centers. The production features many East Bay artists including Company Co-Directors Kathryn Roszak and Christopher Castle of Richmond. The dancers are all from the East Bay: John Chung (Oakland), Terese Hoibye (Berkeley), Deborah Hurley (San Leandro), Kelly McCann (Walnut Creek), Charles Slender (Berkeley) and Emily Zeller (Berkeley).

Children and families can spend the evening with the animals and camp out in the meadow. Reservations required. 510-632-9525, ext. 131. Call for price.

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\$7.50 general; \$4.50 seniors and children ages 2 to 14; free children under

age 2. \$3 parking fee. Daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Knowland Park, 9777 Golf Links Road, off Interstate Highway 580, Oakland. 510-632-9525 or www.oaklandzoo.org.

USS POTOMAC — The 165-foot presidential yacht USS Potomac was called the "Floating White House" when it was refurbished at the beginning of World War II for use by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The yacht has been restored to its World

War II splendor and visitors are welcome to docked at the foot of Clay Street.

USS Potomac offers both dock tours of the ship and two-hour narrated history cruises on Saturday and Sunday.

DOCKSIDE TOURS — The tours last about an hour and discuss the ship's history.

FDR used the ship. Wednesday a.m. to 2 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday a.m. to 4 p.m.

See EVENTS, Page C1

DONATE YOUR AUTOMOBILE

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Proceeds from your vehicle donation will benefit Family House, which helps families of children with cancer, free of charge, while they are receiving treatment at UCSF Children's Hospital.

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• Primed As Necessary

• Hand Sanded For Paint Adherence

• Moldings And Emblems Precisely Masked

• Factored In Color

• Factors In Paint Colors

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4 PAGE C8

high increases a viewer's understanding of the peoples who made the objects.

PROTESTANT DIVINE SERVICES, Sundays, 11 a.m. Hornet Chapel John Berger conducts church services aboard the Hornet in the Wardroom Lounge. Everyone is welcome and refreshments are served immediately following the service.

"Limited Access Day," Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Due to ship maintenance, tours of the navigation bridge and the engine room are not available. \$5. **12** general, \$10 seniors, students and military, active or inactive; \$5 youths age 5 to 18; free children under age 5. Monday and Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., limited access as ship maintenance is being performed. Pier 3 (enter at Atlantic Avenue), Alameda Point, Alameda. 510-521-8448 or www.uss-hornet.org.

WESTERN AEROSPACE MUSEUM — The museum features a display of aircraft ranging from World War II to present-day models, as well as other historical aviation memorabilia. Among the museum displays are a McDonnell Douglas A-4 Skyhawk from the Vietnam War; a McDonnell Douglas-British Aerospace Harrier; a replica of the Wright Brothers 1911 Vin Fiz, the first plane to be flown across the United States; and a Lockheed Vega, a single engine plane flown by Amelia Earhart who set speed records in it. The plane is the only Vega in existence with an aluminum fuselage. Also included is a vertical take-off Harrier jet formerly belonging to NASA and a British-built flying boat. Docent-led tours available by special request. **\$7** general; \$6 seniors; \$3 children age 6 to 12; free children under age 6; \$2 per person additional for Short Solent flying boat tour. Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. North Field, Oakland International Airport 8260 Boeing St., Building 621, Oakland. 510-638-7100 or www.westernaerospace.org.

GENERAL

CHABOT SPACE AND SCIENCE CENTER — A state-of-the-art facility featuring all science education activities around astronomy. **SPECIAL EVENT** — "World Space Week Celebration," Oct. 4, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Celebrate the 45th anniversary of NASA by sending a message to astronauts on the International Space Station and to controllers at the Mission Control Center in Houston. Learn about and build models of NASA spacecraft and learn when and where to see the space station fly over your home. There will be space cakes and drinks. \$20 general; \$10 children. Center Admission: \$8 general; \$5.50 seniors and youths age 4 to 12; Add One Show: \$14.75 general; \$11 seniors and children age 4 to 12; Add Two Shows: \$19.75 general; \$15.50 seniors and children age 4 to 12; Planetary or Megadome Theater only: \$8.75 general; \$6.50 seniors and youths age 4 to 12, for free children age 3 and under; free for all on the first Wednesday of the month; free weekends for telescope viewing only: \$4 parking. Tuesday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Planetary and Theater Evening Hours: Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. 10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland. 510-336-7300 or www.chabotspace.org.

LAWRENCE HALL OF SCIENCE — EXHIBITS — "Jelly Belly Presents Candy Unwrapped," opening Oct. 4. Visit 17 interactive stations to learn about the science behind candy. Learn about taste buds on a giant tongue, suck sour candy as cameras catch reactions, and find out how insects can be delicious. Climb on a "rock candy" mountain or find what puffy-puff and barfi are. "Forces That Shape The Bay," ongoing. A science park that shows and explains why the San Francisco Bay is the way it is, with information on water, erosion, plate tectonics and mountain building. You can ride earthquake simulators, set erosion in motion and look far out into the Bay with a powerful telescope from 1,100 feet above sea level. The center of the exhibit is a waterfall that demonstrates how water flows from the Sierra Nevada Mountains to the Bay and you can control where the water goes. There are also

hands-on erosion tables, and a 40-foot-long, six-foot-high, rock compression wall.

"The Amazing Maze," ongoing. In a 1,000 square foot area there is a maze of colorful, eight-foot-high plastic panels that will take you this way and that and challenge you to find a way out. For all ages.

"The Idea Lab," ongoing. Enter the domain of the research scientist and the inventor. This lab is an ongoing process with the intent of putting some of the building blocks of current UC Berkeley research in the hands of visitors, giving visitors a chance to observe, make predictions, interpret the evidence and draw conclusions. In Holt Hall.

"Math Rules!" ongoing exhibit. A math exhibit of hands-on problem-solving stations, each with a different mathematical challenge. Make mathematical ice-cream cones, use blocks to build three-dimensional structures, make dodecagon pies from a variety of mathematical shapes and stretch mathematical thinking.

"Within the Human Brain," ongoing installation. Visitors test their cranial nerves, play skee-ball, master mazes, match musical tones and construct stories inside a simulated "rat cage" of learning experiments.

"YEAI Young Explorers Area," ongoing. LHS has a space just for young kids and preschoolers, with a puppet theater, blocks and structures to build and books to read.

"Gravity Wall," ongoing. Create your own vertical maze by inserting plastic cards into a slotted wall and then drop a ball from the top to the bottom.

"Math Around the World," ongoing. Enjoy math with a multicultural perspective.

ONGOING PROGRAMS — Free after museum admission.

Computer Lab, ongoing. A chance for children to explore age-appropriate software and the Internet. For children

age 5 and above; children under age 10 accompanied by an adult. Saturday, 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Biology Discovery Lab. In the renovated Biology Lab visitors may hold and observe gentle animals. Saturday, Sunday, 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

HOLT PLANETARIUM — Programs are recommended for age 8 and up; children under age 6 will not be admitted to any show except "Flying High" at 1 p.m. \$3 general; \$2.50 for ages 18 and under in addition to regular museum admission. Saturday, Sunday and holidays.

"Constellations Tonight!" Using a simple star map, learn to identify the most prominent constellations of the season on the planetarium sky. Keep the map and try to find the constellations in the real nighttime sky. For ages 6 and above.

"Flying High." Take an imaginary trip into space. Start by speeding through a whole day in the planetarium "time machine," and learning to identify the Big Dipper. Take off with the launch of a spaceship and learn how things move in space, how astronauts eat food in a weightless environment, and how satellites are put into orbit. For ages 4 to 7 and above.

SPECIAL EVENTS — **"Jelly Belly Presents Candy Unwrapped: Opening Celebration,"** Oct. 5, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Join the SUGART troupe in decorum a candy landscape, see crystal turn into rock candy and find out how a gummy worm squirms in water.

\$8 general; \$6 seniors, students, disabled, and youths age 5 to 18; \$4 children age 3 to 4; free children age 2 and younger. Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

p.m. Centennial Drive, Uc berkeley 510-642-5132 or www.lhs.berkeley.edu

UC BERKELEY PACIFIC FILM ARCHIVE — "The Heart of the Matter" Heddy Hongmann, through Oct. 24. A retrospective of films by the Peruvian born filmmaker who calls the Netherlands home. All films begin at 7:30 p.m.

Oct. 3 "Mind Shadows." The filmmaker will be present at this showing.

Oct. 8 "Metal and Melancholy." Oct. 8 "Amor Natural," preceded by "Four Times My Heart."

The Cinema of Ernie Gehr," Oct. 7 through Oct. 21. An exploration of the experimental films of the San Francisco filmmaker. All films begin at 7:30. The filmmaker will be present at all showings.

Oct. 7 "Program 1, featuring "Field," "Mirage," "Serene Velocity," and "Crystal Palace."

"New Latin American Cinema," Oct. 11 through Oct. 25. A showing of recent films from Central and South America.

Oct. 11, 5, 10 p.m. and 9:20 p.m. "Crane World."

Oct. 11, 7 p.m. and Oct. 12, 5:30 p.m. "Japon."

Single feature \$8 adults; \$5 seniors disabled persons and youth ages 17 and under; \$2 additional features. Call for times. PFA Theater 2575 Bancroft Way, Berkeley 510-642-5249 or www.bampfa.berkeley.edu

LA PENA CULTURAL CENTER — "Indigenous People's Day," Oct. 12, 8 p.m. A celebration with activists, musicians and cultural events.

See EVENTS, Page C11

Public Forum Community Advisory Board Meeting

In conjunction with the West Contra Costa Healthcare District, Doctors Medical Center invites the public to attend an open forum. This meeting is intended to provide information to the community about Doctors Medical Center's plans for our facilities and to provide an opportunity for community input through the Advisory Board.

**Wednesday
October 15, 2003**

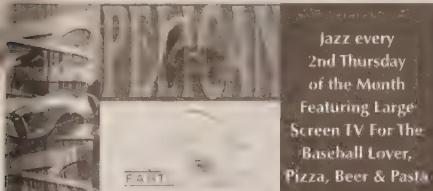
**7:00 PM - Maple Hall
13831 San Pablo Ave.
San Pablo**

**Doctors
Medical Center
San Pablo/Pinole
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THE DINING GUIDE

ASTA PELICAN TOP SIDE LOUNGE

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Jazz every 2nd Thursday of the Month
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Legend: \$ rating is average dinner entrée price

AE	American Express	\$.....	Entrées under \$7
CB	Carte Blanche	\$\$	\$7-\$14
DC	Diners Club	\$\$\$	\$15-\$20
DS	Discover Card	\$\$\$\$	\$20+
MC	MasterCard		
VS	Visa	FB	Full Bar
AC	All Cards accepted	RR	Reservations recommended
CA	Checks accepted		Wheelchair access

Gold Coast Grill

1901 Park Street, Alameda (510) 522-5388

An Alameda favorite since 1992 the Gold Coast Grill serves a wide selection of dishes with a Mediterranean flair in a warm, inviting setting. Dining choices include classic favorites, Grecian specialties and contemporary style. Lunch and dinner specialties are featured daily. Private dining rooms are available for your special events.

Pasta Pelican

2455 Mariner Square Drive, Alameda (510) 564-7427

For the past four years, pasta Pelican Restaurant has been delighting its guests with a variety of unique dishes. Their extensive menu offers veal, steak, seafood, chicken classic pastas, salads, sandwiches and appetizers. Guests are raving about this waterfront restaurant for their famous fresh baked bread, fried calamari, homemade clam chowder, variety of salads, attentive, friendly service, and inviting atmosphere. All this for what is considered to be one of the best values in the Bay Area. Formerly The Rusty Pelican, the restaurant is located in Alameda, behind the Webster Tube with a spectacular view of Jack London Square and the Oakland Hills. You will truly enjoy this fine dining experience. Parking and cooking are free. For reservations please call (510) 864-7427.

Picanteria Playa

2826 Shore Line Drive, Alameda (510) 522-5151

Picanteria Playa serves the real flavors of Mexico! There is nothing more Mexican than a freshly made com tortilla. Smell the organic com tortillas being cooked right in front of you. These tortillas are served with our delicious chile relleno, rich enchiladas de mole, fresh fish tacos, grilled carne asada and many more traditional Mexican dishes. Seasonal fruit drinks (aguas frescas) and margaritas will quench your thirst and transport you right to the beach in Mexico. After the meal try the "melt in your mouth" flan or the signature Mexican chocolate angel food cake. Located on the beach at the very south end of Park Street, this twin of the very popular Berkeley Picanteria has the best view in town. Enjoy a meal on the patio that looks out on the water or in the dining room that shows off the folk art of Mexico. Brunch is served on the weekends until 3 and includes huevos rancheros, chilquiles and hot chocolate imported directly from Oaxaca. Open daily 11 to 10.

Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant

300 - 29th Avenue, Oakland (510) 261-1621

Good food, friendly service, and comfortable atmosphere describe Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant. For over 30 years the restaurant has been located adjacent to the Park Street Bridge overlooking the Alameda/Oakland estuary. The "Pier" offers an extensive menu featuring fresh seafood, angus New York steak, prime rib, pasta, teriyaki ribs, daily specials, and much more. The theme in the kitchen is "good homestyle cooking." Brunch is served on weekends from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and the popular earlybird menu is featured daily. Every table has a view of the water and there is plenty of free parking. The Pier is open 7 days a week. Mon. - Fri. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. Bar Hours: Mon. - Thu. 11 a.m. - 11 p.m., Fri. - Sat.

Speisekammer

2424 Lincoln Ave., Alameda (510) 522-1300

Speisekammer presents Modern German Cuisine that is good for the body and soul. Sauerbraten, Wiener Schnitzel and a house recipe Bratwurst are standards. Light fare such as the Gemüsestrudel (Vegetable Strudel with Goat Cheese, Roasted Red Pepper and Spinach. Served in a Carrot Sauce) give the menu a modern (or California) twist. There is a word in the German language that has no counterpart in English: Gemütskuch. It connotes a combination of comfort, friendliness and the general sentiment of being completely at ease with your surroundings. Speisekamers atmosphere is Gemütskuch. Large tables and a private room make it a great place for groups. The Beer is Strictly German. The Cocktails are Distinctly American, and the wine list has some of each. Lunch is served Tues-Fri - Grilled Pannini Sandwiches and Salads are offered along with some of the more popular entrée items. Sunday Brunch is to die for 10am-2pm. Dinner is served Tues-Sun W. \$5-\$55, AC FB RR

Pier 29 WATERFRONT FAMILY RESTAURANT PRIME RIB, SEAFOOD & COCKTAILS

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Saturday - Sunday 9am - 3pm

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Sun - Thurs 3pm - 6pm • Fri - Sat 3pm - 5:30pm
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Dinner 5:00 - 10:00 Mon.-Sat.
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author of just released,
From My Mexican Kitchen—Techniques and Ingredients
Diana will begin at 3 p.m. by speaking about Mexican cuisine and then she will be signing her new book. Books will be available for purchase.
You can meet her at the following locations:
PICANTE
Picante Berkeley 1328 Sixth Street @ Gilman
October 4, 2003 3 p.m.
Picante Alameda 2375 Shoreline Drive @ Park
October 5, 2003 3 p.m.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

Legal Notice

Legal Not

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF TAYLOR, LEWIS T. Case No. P03-1092

To heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and persons who may be heirs to the estate, or both, of LEWIS TAYLOR, A PETITION TO ADMINISTER has been filed in the Superior Court of Contra Costa County of CONTRA COSTA.

THE PETITION REQUESTS AUTHORITY TO ADMINISTER the estate under the independent administration of Estate. The court may or may not allow the personal representative to take many actions without court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons, unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action. The independent administration authority may be granted unless the personal representative files an objection to the petition or shows good cause why the court should not grant the action.

A HEARING ON the petition will be held on October 20, 2003 at 1:30 p.m. in Court No. 61 located at 725 Court St. Martinez, CA 94553.

If you are a creditor or grantor of the petition, you should appear at the hearing to object or file written objections or file written objections to the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a grantor of the petition, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative or the court clerk for filing within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire until 12 months from the hearing date.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the court, if you are a person interested in the estate, by filing with the court a request for Special Notice (Form 140) concerning an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of a specific asset, as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Address for petitioner:

ROMAN FERD ESO

Law Office of ROMAN FERD

STE 1000

BEVERLY HILLS CA 90211

El Cerrito Journal

October 17, 2003

Legal The Journal #1526

Publish October 3, 10, 17,

2003

Legal Notice

FILED SEPTEMBER 02, 2003

STEPHEN L. WEIR,

County Clerk

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

By M. OLIVER, Deputy

FILED NO. 2003-7430

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The name of the business:

AMERITRUST FUNDING

is located at 3020 El Cerrito

Plaza, #5450, El Cerrito, CA, 94530. It is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Stephen C. Lee

1538 Richmond St.

El Cerrito, CA 94530

Echo C. Chien

1536 Richmond St.

El Cerrito, CA 94530

This business is conduct-

ed by: husband and wife

/s/ Echo C. Chien

This statement was filed

with the County Clerk of

Contra Costa County

on September 02, 2003.

Legal Notice

FILED SEPTEMBER 02, 2003

STEPHEN L. WEIR,

County Clerk

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

By M. OLIVER, Deputy

FILED NO. 2003-7430

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The name of the business:

GOODRICH VENTURES LTD

is located at 115 Crestridge Ct.

Concord, CA 94521. It is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Douglas R Goodrich

4482 Sweet Shrub Ct.

El Sobrante, CA 94847

This business is conduct-

ed by: husband and wife

/s/ Charles C. Tai

This statement was filed

with the County Clerk of

Contra Costa County

on September 02, 2003.

Legal Notice

FILED SEPTEMBER 02, 2003

STEPHEN L. WEIR,

County Clerk

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

By M. OLIVER, Deputy

FILED NO. 2003-7430

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The name of the business:

GOODRICH VENTURES LTD

is located at 115 Crestridge Ct.

Concord, CA 94521. It is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Alice C. Tai

4482 Sweet Shrub Ct.

El Sobrante, CA 94847

This business is conduct-

ed by: husband and wife

/s/ Alice C. Tai

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GOODRICH VENTURES LTD

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Concord, CA 94521. It is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Charles C. Tai

4482 Sweet Shrub Ct.

El Sobrante, CA 94847

This business is conduct-

ed by: husband and wife

/s/ Charles C. Tai

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El Cerrito, CA 94530

Echo C. Chien

1536 Richmond St.

El Cerrito, CA 94530

This business is conduct-

ed by: husband and wife

/s/ Echo C. Chien

This statement was filed

with the County Clerk of

Contra Costa County

on September 02, 2003.

Legal Notice

FILED SEPTEMBER 02, 2003

STEPHEN L. WEIR,

County Clerk

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

By M. OLIVER, Deputy

FILED NO. 2003-7430

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/s/ Echo C. Chien

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FILED SEPTEMBER 02, 2003

STEPHEN L. WEIR,

Symphony

ON PAGE C12

the world premiere in the program's first half, introduced audience to a distinctive tonal voice. Inspired by Dante's *Inferno*, ya has created an aptly dark dreamlike landscape. The rousing first movement pits various sections of the orchestra against one another, and effect is unsettling — chirping woodwinds and an angelic occasionally emerge, only to be absorbed back into the os. The struggle for su- nacy continues in the cen- "Lamento," with a solo viola making a heartfelt entrance lushly supplied by concert- ster (Robin Sharp). The work with a restless, dancing fi- Nagano and the orchestra e clearly committed to the minute performance, and it is across with impressive re.



Tenors times three

OAKLAND LYRIC OPERA will present the "Three Tenors" concert Saturday, Oct. 4, with tenors, from left, Douglas Bryson, Jorge Orlando Gomez and Andrew Truett, accompanied by pianist David Miotke. The trio will perform favorite opera arias including Rossini's "La Danza," Lehar's "Dein ist mein ganzes Herz" from "Das Land des Lachels," Donizetti's "Una Furtiva Lagrima" from "L'elisir d'amore," Verdi's "Questa o quella" from "Rigoletto," Puccini's "Nessun Dorma" from "Turandot" as well as selections from "West Side Story," popular Neapolitan songs and various medleys. The concert will be at 8 p.m. in the Lake Merritt United Methodist Church, 1330 Lakeshore Ave. Concert-goers are invited to an artists' reception which will follow the performance. Admission is \$20. To charge by phone, call 510-836-6772.

By Mary F. Pols

STAFF WRITER

In "Casa de los Babys," his feature film, the gifted John Sayles does what he does best, nailing a window onto a slice of life so believable, you'd swear the movie was a documentary if you didn't know better. This time he trains his story- teller's eye on foreign adoptions, a topic inherently rich with social, political and emotional interest. Without preaching or lecturing, Sayles invites us to spend a day in the life of the adoption game in an unnamed American country (the film was shot in Mexico, but it's not intended to be set there) and draw our own conclusions. As always, he's assembled an extraordinary cast that runs the gamut of overlooked actors to old favorites and talented newcomers. Six very different American men have taken up residence in hotel rooms called Casa de los Babys, waiting for their new children to wind their way through the city's red tape and into their new mother's arms. Leslie (Lili Taylor) is only 30 and could probably have babies of her own, except she's sick of failed relationships with men. She's the only one in the group who speaks Spanish, although Boston-based Irish immigrant Eileen (Susan Lynch, starred in Sayles' "The Secret in the Garden") is trying to learn. She's almost broke and her husband is unemployed, but she still offers generous tips to the employees. Daryl Hannah plays a good-natured beauty Skipper, who expresses urgency while the rest of women eye her with a mix of admiration and envy.

The youngest woman in the up, insecure, sweet Jennifer (Jennifer Gyllenhaal, cast before "Cry Baby" made her a face to behold), is married to a rich man who orders her around via cell phone. Nan (Marcia Gay Harden, uniformly unsympathetic) is the woman you'd expect to want to leave from a foreign land; she's always fussing about water or food-borne diseases and treating natives with suspicion. Mary (Mary Elizabeth Winstead, who recently starred in Sayles' "Sunshine State"), plays like a born-again Christian and a recovering alcoholic. Overseeing the very watchable group is the chip-tongued Senora Munoz (the velvety Rita Moreno), who runs the hotel. The women snipe at and about each other. Half of them assume she is a lesbian and Skipper is straight. There's constant speculation about what kind of mother



LILI TAYLOR is waiting to adopt a baby in "Casa De Los Babys."

REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "Casa de los Babys"■ **STARRING:** Maggie Gyllenhaal, Daryl Hannah, Marcia Gay Harden, Lili Taylor■ **RATING:** R (some language and brief drug use)■ **RUNNING TIME:** 1 hour, 35 minutes■ **WHERE:** Opens today at the Piedmont, Oakland; the Act 1 and 2, Berkeley; and the Embarcadero Center Cinemas, S.F.■ **GRADE:** B+

each will be, with a hint that each thinks she'll be better than the woman in the next hotel room down. Being with them is like hanging out at a playground, with all the competition intact, and only the toddlers missing.

Sayles manages to make us feel we've got a fairly clear picture of each of these women, even though the film is relatively — by his standards — short and there is a lot of emotional ground to cover. He even makes time to introduce an eighth lead, the hotel maid Asuncion (Vanessa Martinez, from "Lone Star" and "Limbo"), who ends up being one of the most compelling characters in the film.

Unfortunately, there are diversions that feel unexplored. We meet a young man who wants to move to America, then Sayles darts away on another tack. A plot thread about an unwed pregnant teen dangles more than it ought, perhaps because it feels

like he included it out of a sense of obligation.

Still, one of Sayles' best attributes as a writer lies with his generosity in including points of view from across the social spectrum. Senora Munoz's wild-eyed son lashes out at her for participating in a system that sends native children away to live in "imperialist" America. Meanwhile, Sayles shows us homeless, unwanted native boys running wild through the city, stealing, beginning and being cursed at by their own countrymen. For every position, there's a counter-position.

But this isn't a film that seeks to determine what's right or wrong about American families adopting children from foreign lands. It will open our eyes to those issues, but at its heart, "Casa de los Babys" is about what happens when the desire to become a parent hits a roadblock — one imposed by nature or circumstance — and yet refuses to die. There is an extraordinarily moving scene near the end between Asuncion and Eileen about the elemental longing to be a mother. The two women speak only bits and pieces of each other's languages, yet they communicate their feelings to each other as easily as if they were fluent. In a sense they are; what translates more easily between cultures than love for a child?

The film ends on an abrupt note. It's nowhere near as sudden as the scene that ends Sayles' "Limbo," which demands that the viewer participate by completing

the story in his or her imagination. But it does leave us hanging, willing the credits not to start rolling, not yet, not before we know what happens to Gayle and Leslie and Skipper and the rest of them. Is this a flaw? It depends on whether or not you believe that there's something wrong with leaving them wanting more.

Reach Mary F. Pols at 925-945-4741 or mpols@cctimes.com.

BEST SELLERS

Hardcover Fiction

- 1 **The Da Vinci Code**, Dan Brown, \$24.95. In an exhilarating blend of scholarly intelligence, relentless adventure, and cutting wit, Robert Langdon (first introduced in "Angels & Demons") and his new adventure combines the punch of Robert Ludlum's, the intriguing historical touch of Umberto Eco, and the nonstop suspense of Michael Crichton.
- 2 **Bleachers**, John Grisham, \$19.95. High school all-American Neely Crenshaw was probably the best quarterback ever to play for the legendary Messina Spartans. Fifteen years have gone by since those glory days, and Neely has come home to Messina to bury Coach Eddie Rake, the man who molded the Spartans into an unbeatable football dynasty.
- 3 **The Namesake**, Jhumpa Lahiri, \$24. Expanding on her signature themes of the immigrant experience — the clash of culture, and the tangled ties of generations, Lahiri brings to her terrifically poignant first novel the remarkable powers of emotion and insight that have drawn more than half a million readers to her debut story collection.
- 4 **A Place of Hiding**, Elizabeth George, \$26.95. An isolated beach on the island of Guernsey in the English Channel is the scene of the murder of Guy Brouard, one of Guernsey's wealthiest inhabitants and its main benefactor.

- 5 **The Lovely Bones**, Alice Sebold \$21.95. From the author of the stunning memoir, "Lucky," comes a fiction debut narrated from heaven. Starting with the first chapter, 14-year-old Susie Salmon recounts her rape and murder and watches her family as they cope with their grief. "Destined to become a classic, in the vein of To Kill a Mockingbird ... I loved it." Anna Quindlen

- 6 **Fortress of Solitude**, Jonathan Lethem, \$26. From the National Book Critics Award winner comes a daring, riotous, sweeping novel that spins the tale of two friends from a Brooklyn neighborhood, one black and one white, and their adventures in late 20th-century America.

- 7 **The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time**, Mark Haddon, \$22.95. Narrated by a 15-year-old autistic savant obsessed with Sherlock Holmes, this dazzling novel weaves together an old-fashioned mystery, a contemporary coming-of-age story, and a fascinating excursion into a mind incapable of processing emotions.

- 8 **The Kalahari Typing School for Men**, Alexander McCall Smith, \$19.95. Now that the No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency is established, its founder, Precious Ramotswe, can look upon her life with pride. But life is never without its problems.

- 9 **How to Breathe Underwater**, Julie Orringer, \$21. This guide to life in a hostile world is an astonishing debut story collection from a young writer who has already received immediate worldwide attention.

- 10 **The Known World**, Edward P. Jones, \$24.95. Henry Townsend, a black bootmaker and former slave in antebellum Virginia, becomes a proprietor of his own plantation — as well as his own slaves. This modern masterpiece explores what happens when he dies and "the known world."

unravels

Hardcover Nonfiction

- 1 **Lies & the Lying Liars Who Tell Them**, Al Franken, \$25. Once again, the author of "Rush Limbaugh Is a Big Fat Idiot and Other Observations" trains his subversive wit directly on the contemporary political scene, leaving the powers-beat-in tatters and his audience in hysterics.
- 2 **Under the Banner of Heaven**, Jon Krakauer, \$26. At the core of his book is an appalling double murder committed by two Mormon fundamentalist brothers, Ron and Dan Lafferty, who insist they received a revelation from God commanding them to kill their blameless victims.
- 3 **The Ultimate Weight Solution**, Phillip McGraw, \$26. From the best-selling author of "Self Matters" comes a revolutionary weight loss program as only Dr. Phil could write it — a book that changes behavior in a most unique way and that will change lives forever.
- 4 **The Great Unraveling**, Paul Krugman, \$25.95. In this long-awaited work containing economist Krugman's most influential columns along with new commentary, he chronicles how the boom economy unraveled, how exuberance gave way to pessimism as how the age of corporate heroes gave way to corporate scandals, and how fiscal responsibility collapsed.

- 5 **Thieves in High Places**, Jim Hightower, \$24.95. America listens to Jim Hightower. In this book he takes on the Bushites, the Wobblies, and the corporate Kleptocrats, digging up behind-the-scenes dirt that the corporate media overlooks.

- 6 **Madam Secretary**, Madeline Albright, \$27.95. Sure to be one of the signature books of the century, this is a tapestry both intimate and panoramic, personal and public, and a rich memoir of a powerful woman. Two 16-page photo inserts.

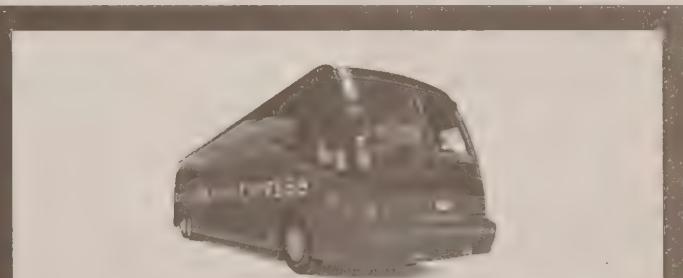
- 7 **Reading Lolita in Tehran**, Azar Nafisi, \$23.95. The astonishing true story of young women who met in secret each week to read and talk about forbidden Western classics — and their lives and loves — in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

- 8 **Stupid White Men**, Michael Moore, \$24.95. Moore sizes up the new century — and that big, ugly, special-interest group that's laying waste to the world as we know it. Stupid white men. Whether he's calling for United Nations action to overthrow the Bush Family Junta or praying that Jesse Helms will get kissed by a man, "Stupid White Men" is Mike's "Manifesto on Mafias and Mediocrity."

- 9 **The South Beach Diet**, Arthur Agatston, M.D., \$24.95. Dr. Agatston has developed an all-science, deliciously heart-healthy program that offers immediate results, helping dieters shed 10, 20, 30 pounds while radically changing their blood chemistry, reversing diabetes, and lowering high cholesterol.

- 10 **Moneyball**, Michael Lewis, \$24.95. The Oakland Athletics have a secret a winning baseball team is made, not bought. A story about money, science, entertainment, egos, "Moneyball" traces the remarkable success of the Oakland Athletics, a major league team with a minor league budget.

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CLAND HISTORIC DOWNTOWN WALKING TOURS — Walking tours downtown Oakland, focusing on city landmarks and landscapes. Tours begin at 10 a.m.

K London Waterfront, Oct. 1 and 2, 25. A walking tour of the historic Oakland Waterfront and Jack London stage against a backdrop of new art development including haunts of Jack London, the USS Potomac, and turn-of-the-century produce district arches and temples. Oct. 4. A walking tour of Oakland's historic places of worship featuring their history and architecture. Learn about the contributions of these houses of worship.

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Arts & Leisure

Friday, October 3, 2003

JV PM



BILL MANN
Multimedia Notes

Blues give PBS reason to be cheerful

A FEW QUICK observations about PBS's worthwhile "Blues" series that's been running all week and concludes Saturday with Clint Eastwood's film "Piano Blues".

This isn't a Ken Burns series, and that's a good thing. Viewing the history of any music through a narrow prism — like Burns' overuse of Wynton Marsalis in his jazz series — could not have done justice to the blues.

One hopes this landmark series will ignite yet another wave of interest in the art form providing the foundation of American popular music. I suspect it will. As Martin Scorsese's well-done series has pointed out, rock and roll (and R&B) all but killed the audience for blues in the 1950s until it came back with a vengeance around 1965 when white audiences discovered it through the music of the Rolling Stones, John Mayall, Cream, etc.

Interest faded again as the dubious wave of angry/gangsta rap (and hip-hop) engulfed the pop-music world. This PBS series should reach a lot of younger fans who might otherwise not be exposed to blues because they wouldn't be caught dead listening to Dad's old Paul Butterfield or Howlin' Wolf LP's.

The best two installments of "Blues," alas, have already aired — Tuesday's first-rate film about B.B. King and Memphis's WDIA, the nation's first black radio station.

Also: Last night's wonderful, concert-performance-filled history of Chicago's legendary Chess Records, as seen through the eyes of the energetic Marshall Chess. Director Mark Levin's bringing in rappers like Chuck D. was a smart move for the reasons above — it provided a link between rap and blues.

The weakest two installments air tonight and tomorrow. I was looking forward to Mike Figgis' "Red, White and Blues" at 9 tonight on KQED. It tells the story of the U.K./blues connection. It starts off with a killer performance by a barely recognizable Van Morrison, whom I knew was a fine blues singer. But I've never heard Morrison sing a song in such gritty, straight-ahead blues style.

Also: It's an eyebrow-raiser to see how famous Britsingers like Eric Burdon have aged. Far too much of tonight's film is about obscure British jazz players and skiffle bands. I love skiffle music, but not here, thanks.

Likewise, I adore Duke Ellington, Count Basie, and Ray Charles. But Eastwood's film tomorrow looks like a vanity project (he chats at the keyboard with his keyboard idols like Charles, Dave Brubeck, etc.). It should be called "Clint's Favorite Piano Players," and is far more about jazz (and R&B) than blues. There are a few killer blues performances, however — from the likes of 94-year-old Pinetop Perkins.

As a white boy smitten with the blues, I had a dream job in the '70s: As music critic for the morning daily in Montreal and correspondent for London's influential Melody Maker, I had the rare privilege to meet many of the blues icons (almost all now dead) featured on this week's great series.

I still remember these moments like they happened yesterday: Watching that giant of a man, Howlin' Wolf, crawl out on stage on all fours, his keychain hanging down, at the Esquire Show Bar in Montreal. Or interviewing John Lee Hooker as he ate a sandwich out of a paper bag in his hotel room. Or sharing a late-night snack with Lightnin' Hopkins. I was in heaven as I sat in a dressing room with blues icons Hooker and B.B. King. These old guys made for the purest, most satisfying experiences I ever had around any musicians while covering a hopped-up industry. PBS's "Blues" reminds me just how lucky I was.

Questions? Comments? E-mail Bill : Newsman@sonic.net



THE DRAMA MAMAS explode the myths of motherhood in "Stretch Marks: Growing into Motherhood." The troupe includes, from left, Christine Garofoli, Anna Melillo, Deborah Banks and Christine DiBiasi.

Drama Mamas stretch their stay

By Brian Kluepfel
CORRESPONDENT

OAKLAND — Christine Garofoli is frank about the dream of motherhood versus the reality. "You don't love every minute of it!" she says.

Some of the revelations, good and bad, of being a new mom led Garofoli and three East Bay writing colleagues to become playwrights.

The writing group had its seeds in an Oakland city park, when Garofoli met Sara Cluff — in the company of their same-aged children. Garofoli earned a degree in journalism at the University of Wisconsin-Madison but admittedly had "lost touch" with writing when her career veered into the high-finance realms of marketing for Charles Schwab. The catastrophe of Sept. 11, 2001, she said, helped her refocus on other things, including family and writing. "I wanted something a bit more soulful to link between rap and blues.

The weakest two installments air tonight and tomorrow. I was looking forward to Mike Figgis' "Red, White and Blues" at 9 tonight on KQED. It tells the story of the U.K./blues connection. It starts off with a killer performance by a barely recognizable Van Morrison, whom I knew was a fine blues singer. But I've never heard Morrison sing a song in such gritty, straight-ahead blues style.

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STRETCH MARKS

WHAT: "Stretch Marks: Growing Into Motherhood"

WHERE: Marsh Theater, 1062 Valencia and 22nd streets, San Francisco

WHEN: Oct. 9-11, 16-18, 8 p.m.

TICKETS AND INFO: 415-826-5750 \$17-22 and www.dramamamas.com

frequently at A Cuppa Tea in Rockridge and more often via the Internet and telephone.

"We e-mailed back and forth a ton, and in the end, we realized we had a play," says Garofoli. The quartet performed their opus in front of family and friends at the Rockridge Library, and were buoyed by the positive feedback. After shopping "Stretch Marks" around, they made their debut this spring at two San Francisco locales, including a sold-out run at the Diva Fest concluding on — naturally — Mother's Day.

Garofoli, whose own mother is coming to see the play in No-

ember, talked about what "resonated" with audiences.

"There are times you say, 'Wow, I almost hit my kid,' or 'I'm really losing it here,' and these are things that everyone in the group could relate to," she said. (Her own children, Gianna, 5, and Cecelia, 3, have seen mom perform the play, but only at rehearsals — Gianna got her first star billing on the play's poster and now calls herself a "Drama Daughter.")

But it's not only mothers who relate to the pathos of "Stretch Marks."

"Our lighting guy came up to us after the first performance last year bawling," said Garofoli. "He hugged us and said it was the best play he had seen in a long time."

Another attendee told Garofoli that she was finally able to talk to her husband about their 8-month-old child and the myriad of emotions she was experiencing.

Garofoli's own character is a composite of persons she's seen over the years in the world of big business. "I wrote the role of Saundra, who has a baby to

mark it off her 'to do' list. She doesn't know what she's getting into ... and approaches mother as a 'project,'" Garofoli admitted it was pastiche of her own and others' experiences. (Initially, all four "Mamas" acted out their own roles, but Cluff and Schiller are replaced in this run by Deborah Banks and Anna Melillo.)

Lighter moments include "Mom Interviews," where prospective birth-givers are grilled like employee candidates (but their interviewee jumps on their lap and drools on them), a "Parent IQ Test," and the Fosse-like musical celebration of sleep. Actors also muse over what it would be like if parents could 'break up' with their children.

"Motherhood is great, but really, you're only loving every other minute of it," said Garofoli. "It's not all great, and just to have a forum to talk about it realistically is nice."

What do the Drama Mamas want to do? "Give a voice to the millions of mommies who don't even have time to take a shower!" said Garofoli.

Von Stade and Nagano together at last

Berkeley Symphony marks its 33rd season — and its conductor's 25th with remarkable aplomb

By Georgia Rowe
CORRESPONDENT

Kent Nagano and the Berkeley Symphony launched the new season in characteristically eclectic style Monday evening at Zellerbach Hall, with precisely the kind of program that has made this conductor and his ensemble one of the Bay Area's unique musical treasures.

Playing works by Debussy, Shostakovich, Beethoven and Berkeley Symphony composer-in-residence Naomi Sekiya, Nagano made the music on the wide-ranging program seem not only compatible, but cohesive.

Of course, music lovers have come to expect both the unexpected and the near-miraculous from Nagano. The peripatetic conductor — who has introduced local audiences to composers from Thomas Ades to Olivier Messiaen to Frank Zappa — has raised more than a few eyebrows over the years with his unusual approach to programming. He must be doing something right, though: Monday's concert, which inaugurated the orchestra's 33rd season, and Nagano's 25th at its helm, was packed.

No doubt many in the crowd were there to hear the always divine Frederica von Stade, who was the vocal soloist for Ravel's "Sheherazade." The mezzo-soprano brings her own brand of star power to the concert hall,



FREDERICA VON STADE performs Ravel's "Sheherazade" with the Berkeley Symphony on Monday.

CONCERT REVIEW

and she and Nagano had never before appeared together in an orchestral concert (hard to believe, since they're both Bay Area residents).

They teamed up persuasively in Ravel's enchanting song cycle. Nagano gave the singer warm, luxuriant support, and von Stade responded with radiant tone, eloquent phrasing and an air of wonder that was perfectly suited to the composer's fragrant word setting.

"Sheherazade" was one of

Ravel's youthful compositions, and Nagano framed it with the equally youthful First symphonies of Beethoven and Shostakovich. The latter, which closed the program, was a triumph. Composed between 1923 and 1925, while Shostakovich was still a teenager, the Symphony No. 1 in F minor, Op. 10, is a remarkable work, and Nagano and the orchestra gave it a performance of tremendous vigor. The conductor shaped the music in bold strokes, from the opening measures of the rambunctious first movement to the final bars of the brusque finale.

The orchestra sounded splendidly unified, however, in Sekiya's "Sinfonia delle Ombre" (Symphony of Shadows). The three-movement work, which

the dramatic writing of the second movement scherzo sounded especially powerful.

The evening opened with Beethoven's Symphony No. 1 in C Major, Op. 21, in a reading that was just as exuberant, if not quite as polished. Despite Nagano's steady pulse, it seemed clear that another rehearsal would have been beneficial.

The orchestra sounded splendidly unified, however, in Sekiya's "Sinfonia delle Ombre" (Symphony of Shadows). The three-movement work, which

See SYMPHONY, Page C11



JACK TUCKER
Community Theater

'Forever' arr. for CCCT

CONTRA COSTA THEATRE opens season Friday, Oct. 3, with "Forever Plaid," which, for good reasons, not to be here, seems destined to ever identified as the only musical hit."

This is the delightfully reincarnation of four male singers, killed in a car crash on the way to their first big gig, now miraculously revived. Singing in the closest of harmony and squabbling over the smallest intonations, the "Plaids" combine their pattering with some nostalgic pop hits of the '60s.

Remember "Love Is a Splendid Thing" and "Coins in the Fountain" again.

Directed by Daren Alollo, with musical direction by Joanne Gabel, the show stars John M. Brown as Jim Fosselius as Smudge, Joanne Gabel as Sparky, and G Hughes as Francis.

"We've been wanting to send 'Forever Plaid' for a long time," says CCCT artistic director Louis Flynn, "and now we have an exciting new direction and four handsome guys to give the show its due."

"We also have a talented and energetic production, including producers Karen Ray and Catherine Schenck, choreographer Misty Taylor, designer Matt Flynn, lighting designer David Lam, and designer Tamara Pla.

"Forever Plaid" plays p.m. Fridays and Saturday, Oct. 10 through Nov. 29, Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Oct. 12, 19, and 26 and Nov. 9, 23. There will be performances Nov. 14-16.

Tickets are \$20 general for youths 16 and under, \$15 for Contra Costa Civic Theatre, 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito. Call 510-524-9132.

YOU'RE UNLUCKY
California Conservatory of the Arts, San Leandro, launches its 25th season Thursday with Neil Simon's "The Oner of Second Avenue," directed by Mike Cymant. Painfully timely comedy Mel Edison (Tim Hendon) is a formerly well-paid executive of a fancy New York company suddenly the victim of a firing. His wife Edna (Maggie Shell) takes a job to tide over, then she too is laid off.

The situation is made worse by the very erratic Mel's life. What he thought was a smart, chic apartment with thin walls, and pollution is killing everything that's on the terrace, which he views of five taller buildings.

The apartment is but and his psychiatrist dies \$23,000 of Mel's money takes the only decent work — he has a nervous breakdown.

"Creates an atmospheric, casual catalyst," a magazine reviewer wrote. "In which laughter seems to be leashed like vapor from the city's manholes."

"Prisoner" plays at 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and at 2 p.m. Sunday through Oct. 26. Tickets are \$16 for seniors. CCT is located at 14th St., San Leandro, with convenient adjacent parking near BART. Call 510-632-5320.

DARK SIDE OF DREAMS
"Assassins," a peek at the side of the American Dream, opens a two-weekend run tonight at the Masquerade, 105 Park Place, Richmond. The musical, a satire of Emilia 2003, which probes the lives of nine people who tried — and some succeeded — to assassinate President of the United States.

With music by Stephen Sondheim and book by Edward Albee, it plays at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays through Oct. 26. Tickets are \$15. May not be suitable for children. Call 510-237-2323.

Reach Jack Tucker at (415) 255-2222 or e-mail to Jack.Tucker@contra-costacounty.com.

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Friday, October 3, 2003

Section D

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MOTOR MATTERS

Beginning with 2005 models, Ford will offer a fire suppression system as a factory option on its own Victoria police interceptors. This expensive engineering development will be added in response to the fact that since 1983, police officers have been killed as a result of fires in Crown Victoria that have been rear-ended at speed.

Ford has already installed aids to prevent fuel tank ruptures 280,000 of the 350,000 Crown Victoria police cars now on the

Sue Cischke, vice president of environmental and safety engineering, says that it will probably take a decade for all Ford police cars to be equipped with the fire suppression system. She stresses that the system is not designed to extinguish fires.

It's engineered to buy enough time for an officer to get out of a car if it catches fire as a result of fuel leakage.

Cischke declined to put a price tag on the system. "It's not an inexpensive system," she says.

The system was designed by Ford engineers working with Aerotech, a division of GenCorp. Aerotech initially created the system for use in interior of military armored personnel carriers.

See ROAD Page D2



NEW VOLKSWAGEN TOUAREG is a sport utility vehicle with luxury amenities and the ability to truly go off-road with its powerful V8 engine and full-time four-wheel drive.

Volkswagen Touareg is a name that is here to stay

MOTOR MATTERS

Volkswagen's all-new sport utility vehicle is as unique as its name. The Touareg — pronounced Tou-areg — goes far beyond ordinary SUVs in both styling and capabilities.

Whether the destination is an upscale social event or the wilderness, the Touareg is capable of making a grand entrance.

The exterior design, with its large wheel arches and stylish 17-inch wheels, suggests strength and forcefulness. For those who desire more rugged attractiveness, 19-inch

wheels are an option.

Yet in spite of its rough-and-tough appearance, there's an indefinable gracefulness to the body style.

Power is one reason this beauty is capable of traveling the highest mountain. Under the hood of my tester is a 4.2-liter V8 engine that produces 320 horsepower.

This power is linked to a six-speed automatic transmission with full-time four-wheel drive.

The transmission also features 4XMOTION, a system that automatically switches the power to the

axle that requires traction — such as might occur on slick icy or snow-covered roads.

This takes place automatically. There is no need for driver input — other than common sense. Should the occasion require, shifting into low can be done while moving.

Thus the Touareg is a perfect on-the-road vehicle.

TOM KEANE
Keane on Wheels

The body has a very rigid construction which is ideal not only for driving on rigorous rough terrain but for smooth roads as well.

With a sturdy frame, each component of the suspension system can provide peak performance. In addition, the interior is much quieter compared to SUVs of old.

Many of the body parts resist dings, and the hood is made of aluminum to resist bending in an accident. Even the doors have a three-part sealing system to shut out

come cheap.

For those who don't want to spend the \$40,700 base price of the V8 engine, a V6 model weighs in at \$34,900. In either case, the options put this SUV in an expensive price category.

My tester cost \$49,915. With either price tag one anticipates all the comforts of home in the interior, and the Touareg doesn't short-change such expectations.

The driver's seat is low and set far back for easy entry, but once the

But such desirable features don't

See KEANE, Page D2

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Detective work needed to identify cause of electrical fail

KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Q I am the original owner of a 1987 Acura Integra with approximately 88,000 miles. It is seldom driven anymore, but when we do we encounter a couple of problems.

One: Every now and then it fails to start. Normally this happens when it has been driven for a few days.

Two: Every now and then after it has started the radio, heater and air conditioner don't work.

We turn off the ignition off, then start it again and the above items

BRAD BERGHOOLDT
Auto QnA

work. All the fuses are fine.

I have taken it to our local auto repair shop, and they stated there was nothing they could do while it was starting normally.

Roy Tucker, Edmonds, Wash.

A This is a tough one without seeing the car and running a few tests. May I begin with a question?

When the Integra fails to start, does it crank but fail to run (perhaps a fuel or ignition problem), or fail to crank (a starter circuit fault)?

Based on the two symptoms you've reported I believe the Integra has a faulty ignition switch.

Before renewing this part — or any other — a little testing is in order.

Next time the Integra fails to start, try twisting the key a little differently — more or less, or perhaps lifting it on a bit.

If the radio/heater/AC systems act up while driving, pull to the side of the road and wiggle the key again (don't go so far as to accidentally engage the starter).

If the symptoms change, or worsen, you've found the fault (the ignition switch). If the symptoms don't change when manipulating

the key, we'll need to get a little more creative.

Start by purchasing an automotive test light at your local auto parts store (about \$10). These resemble an ice pick with a cord exiting the clear-plastic handle.

Next time the Integra fails to start or loses the radio/heater/AC, check each fuse in the under-hood and under-dash fuse panels.

This is done by attaching the test light's alligator clip to a grounded metal object and probing the small slit in each fuse's colored plastic body with the test light's needle-like tip.

Using the fuse identification map within the fuse box cover, identify

and record any fuses that are not "hot" (illuminating the test light) while the ignition switch is in the run position.

Next, list in hand, make an appointment with your repair shop and see if they can make sense of your trove of diagnostic clues.

Knowing what does work is often as important as what doesn't, when diagnosing an electrical fault.

Time for a quiz: The EGR valve is a part of which system? A. Ignition B. Fuel C. Emissions D. Cooling.

The correct answer is C.

The exhaust gas recirculation valve allows a small quantity of exhaust gases to mix with the engine's

incoming air charge.

This reduces combustion temperature and the production of NOX, a smog-forming compound.

A faulty EGR valve or EGR exhaust passage can cause an emissions test failure and a pinging symptom.

Brad Bergoldt teaches automotive technology at Evergreen College in San Jose, Calif.

E-mail him at brad.bergoldt@evergreen.edu or write care of Drive, Mercury News, Ridder Park Drive, San Jose 95190.

He cannot make replies.

Road

FROM PAGE D1

An Aerojet engineer says the system will use a water-based suppressant and surfactant similar to the foam used by some fire departments to suppress puddle fires. The foam will also be similar to chemicals used as fire suppressants in military aircraft and vehicles.

Aerojet says that the final formula is still to be developed. It must be able to survive very cold and very hot environments. The foam will be contained in a tank that keeps the material under high pressure.

It will be automatically deployed when on-board sensors that are tied in to airbag modules detect a high speed crash — something over a 35-mph impact. A mere bump from another vehicle will not trigger the foam to spray out.

The system will know that it is ready to

activate every time the ignition is turned on — in much the same manner that airbags are diagnosed whenever the vehicle is started. Cischeck says that the system requires new electronics that will not be available before 2005 models go into production.

Once the sensors detect the crash, the foam is forced out of its holding tank at high speed to suppress any burning fuel. A Ford engineer says the foam is deployed in less than a half second and is designed to keep spraying out to suppress back flash flames after the initial flames are suppressed.

Ford is being pushed to incorporate new safety systems into its police cruisers because the Crown Victoria has been plagued by its vulnerability to fuel tank ruptures when rear ended at very high speeds.

Some police departments had served notice on Ford that they would discontinue buying their police cruisers unless modifications were made.

seat is ultra-comfortable with lumbar support and heating. Convenient controls allow the selection of a dampening system ranging from hard to medium and soft depending upon the road condition.

In the center console area is an LCD screen for operating the sound, telephone, and navigational systems. It requires "playing" with buttons and dials that are difficult to understand.

In my travels, I became lost and had to ask directions as I couldn't figure out how to operate the navigational system.

The sound system is great,

but I stayed tuned to one station as trying to change from AM to FM was not easy — especially when driving.

In spite of this difficulty, I enjoyed this vehicle for its amenities, especially its entry lights,

The fire suppressant system is the most advanced technology that Ford has devised for remediating the situation. However, because it will take some years before all Crown Victorias are outfitted with fire suppression technology, existing cruisers are being outfitted with shields to prevent fuel tank ruptures. Ford is giving high priority to supplying this fix.

Cischeck says that the high tech fire suppression system will not be offered on conventional Crown Victorias. She says that the system is a sophisticated product designed for use by police departments.

In addition, the fire suppression system cannot be retrofitted to existing cars, whether they are police vehicles or are owned by civilians.

In the meantime, Ford recently announced the recall of 35,700 Crown Victoria police cars and taxi cabs to inspect wheels that could fracture.

The recall involves 2003 Crown Victoria police and taxi models equipped with

and most of all, its extremely comfortable ride.

Actually, my only real problem is pronouncing T-O-U-A-R-E-G, but I better get used to it as this is a name that is destined to become popular.

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steels.

Ford says the wheels may develop cracks "due to heavy-duty applications and unique tires and suspension."

A wheel crack could result in a loss of air in the tire. Ford said it was of any injuries related to the wheels.

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Chevrolet Colorado brings updated look to compact truck segment

MOTOR MATTERS

Chevrolet's venerable S-10 pickup is retired after 22 years of service. Its successor in the compact-pickup workforce is the redesigned Colorado. Its newest truck to sport Chevy's bowtie is available in regular-, extended- and crew-cab configurations. Two bed lengths offered: 6-feet 1-inch for regular and crew cabs, and 5-feet 1-inch for crew cab.

Built on a re-engineered platform, Colorado looks and feels larger inside and out than the S-10. Its wheel track is slightly wider, and, in regular-cab form, it is about three inches longer than the S-10.

Two engine offerings were spawned by the 4.2-liter straight six powering the Blazer. In essence, engineers chopped the appropriate number of cylinders to fit Colorado's 2.8-liter four-cylinder and 3.4-liter five-cylinder inline engines.

The four-cylinder is standard on all but crew-cab models. It delivers 175 horsepower and 185 pounds-foot of torque, and the five-cylinder generates 220 horsepower and 225 pounds-foot of torque.

These numbers are competitive in the compact-pickup market.

Compared to the S-10's long-lived 4.3-V6, Colorado's five-cylinder tops it by horsepower, but comes up short by 25 pounds-foot of torque. Maximum trailer-towing capability of a 3.5-liter-powered Colorado is 5,000 pounds.

The standard transmission for both lines is a five-speed manual; a four-speed automatic is optional.

Exclusions are Z71 and ZQ8 crew cabs, which come standard with a five-cylinder auto transmission combo.

The Z71 package provides off-road goodness for both two- and four-wheel-drive models. It hikes the ride height approximately 3 inches more than that of a standard 2WD model.

Along with beeper suspension components such as gas-charged monotube shocks, a thicker stabilizer bar and 5/75R15 on/off-road tires with aluminum wheels, Z71s provide the grunt of off-road rear differential.

Those preferring to cruise smooth, winding roads can enhance the driving experience with the Z28 sport suspension. This version drops the ride height of 2WD cars 2 inches to boost the sporty Colorado's road-hugging capabilities.

Upgrades include high-pressure, gas-charged Bilstein shocks; sport-ratio coil springs; 255/50R17 performance tires; quicker-ratio steering.

A stretch of winding highway in Vermont's Green Mountains was the ideal setting for the ZQ8 test-truck to strut its stuff. Advantages of its performance enhancements were clear as the pickup nimblely handled the curves.

In sync with its performance character,

TIM SPELL
Truck Talk

the ZQ8 tester flaunted a slick monochrome paint treatment.

Colorados also are available with chrome looks of a different sort.

My first meeting with a production model was with a rugged-looking crew cab. It was my "limo" from the Burlington, Vt., airport to the test-vehicle staging area.

The initial impression was that it looks much like a downsized version of a full-size Silverado — even more appealing than the specially prepped one that is making the auto show circuit. It had a poised stance and the familiar front-end treatment that was unmistakably Chevrolet.

Colorado fulfills the Chevy design image with a signature chrome bar traveling the full width of its nose, splitting the vertically stacked headlamps. Its rugged image was pumped up with dark-colored fender flares, side molding and lower front bumper fascia.

The test-drive started in the crew cab's three-passenger rear compartment. The 60/40-split rear seatbacks have a comfortable recline, and its leg-stretching room is on par with a large sedan's.

Rear seatback portions fold to create a flat load floor.

Looking ahead, Colorado's instrument panel is no-frills with a simply laid out central control panel. Analog gauges get a tad of flair with bezels notched in gear-like fashion.

Standard front seating for regular cabs is a 60/40-split bench, and buckets are fitted into LS models. The crew cab test-truck was well appointed with optional leather upholstery, heated front seats and an eight-way power-adjustable driver seat.

Colorado also boasts enhancements for more efficient cargo hauling. Cargo boxes are deeper and feature a two-tier loading system complemented with a tailgate that



CHEVROLET REPLACES S-10
pickup with new Colorado featuring a more powerful five-cylinder engine or a 2.8-liter four-cylinder with a five-speed manual.

opens to 89- or 55-degree locked positions.

Especially important when using the short crew-cab box, the 55-degree tailgate position allows for pieces of 4-by-8-foot building materials to rest level atop the wheel wells and tailgate edge.

This tailgate also offers the pluses of being removable and lockable.

With its sophisticated styling and engineering, and more substantial look inside and out, Colorado smoothly slips into Chevrolet's updated truck family.

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Purchase of '29 Studebaker took more than a year

MOTOR MATTERS

"Sitting in my driveway is a car I've always wanted," Maury Cagle says. That car is a 1929 Studebaker Commander Regal four-door sedan, which carried a base price when new of \$1,695.

Studebaker offered 26 models in 1929 with the Commander near the middle of the lineup. Cagle has long favored Studebaker automobiles from any era.

In the spring of 2002, Cagle saw an ad offering the Studebaker for sale in Ohio. "The car sounded ideal," he remembers.

The owner was contacted and after discussing the car with Cagle he said he would have a running Studebaker for him when he came to inspect the car.

In May, my wife and I drove to see the car near Dayton, Ohio, Cagle says. When they arrived, the owner was not happy.

The day before, when he had changed the oil in the 250-cubic-inch, straight-eight-cylinder engine, pieces of metal came out of the drain plug. Those pieces were obviously from a piston skirt.

"The car itself was beautiful," Cagle says, "and I was very disappointed."

An engine specialist determined that it needed more than one new piston because at some previous point the pistons had been installed backward. The crankshaft also needed to be reground and the final assessment was that the nine-

VERN PARKER
Classic Classics

bearing engine needed a total overhaul.

"I fully expected the owner to tell me he had taken the car off the market, and would fold in the costs of the engine rebuild to a later, larger price," Cagle says.

This is the point where we learn that it pays to deal with an above-board, honest person.

"He told us he had promised us a working car, and that he would deliver it to us at the agreed-upon price, if we would wait until the engine was rebuilt," Cagle says.

The mocha-colored Studebaker looked great with the chocolate-brown fenders and orange wheels, each with 40 spokes. Each side of the hood was ventilated with 26 vertical louvers. The only problem was under the hood.

"Some key parts proved to be difficult to obtain," Cagle recalls. That's to be expected on a car more than 70 years old.

"The engine was completely disassembled, the head milled, new valves, pistons and rings installed, new rod and main bearings, cam and crankshafts reground, new oil pump, new gaskets and the block painted in its original color," Cagle reports.

"Along the way, the clutch was



1929 STUDEBAKER COMMANDER has all original interior, but most of the engine needed to be rebuilt before the present owner

rebuilt and the transmission checked out." A year passed while the engine was rebuilt.

A year later, the Cagles retraced their path to Ohio to see the just barely completed Studebaker. "The car had five miles on the new engine when I sat behind the wheel and started it," Cagle says.

He recalls the hood was still off the car as he drove it up and down the country roads with the 5.50x19-inch tires on a 121-inch wheelbase soaking up most of the road roughness.

"It has a nice spring action," Cagle's wife says. "It's very comfortable." The long-delayed transaction

was completed that day. The Cagles drove home to await the truck transporting their car.

They needn't have hurried. The truck left Ohio with their Studebaker but before arriving in Virginia it made stops in New York, Connecticut and Maryland.

"One of the amazing things about the car is that the interior is all original," he comments. Opulence was the order of the day when this Studebaker was de-

signed.

The three rear-most windows are fitted with shades, the face of the ashtray is upholstered, and small flaps in both rear armrests conceal

small storage areas.

Rear-seat passengers are furnished a foot rest, a dome light as well as a robe rail where lap robes can be carried in the winter.

From the floor by the front seat sprout both the gearshift lever, attached to the non-synchronized three-speed transmission, and the hand brake. The brakes are mechanical.

The driver has a clear view of the 90-mile-per-hour speedometer from behind the four-spoke steering wheel.

Although the history of the Studebaker is unknown, it is known to have spent some time in a mu-

seum. Other than that it led a sheltered existence, no appreciates.

"There's nothing quite fitting behind that long hood sideview mirrors on top of mounted wheels, and the smooth purr of that eight engine," Cagle says.

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HONDA'S fuel-cell test car, the FCX, drives like an ordinary car, but is much more expensive. The fuel cell system also weighs three times as much as an internal combustion engine and requires about three times the space.

Uneventful test drive of Honda FCX

MOTOR MATTERS

Completely uneventful describes my recent test-drive of Honda's FCX fuel-cell car.

While the FCX has an extraordinary propulsion system, it's a pretty ordinary car to drive. And that is Honda's point.

Fuel cells are devices that produce electricity to power motors through a chemical reaction using hydrogen as the fuel. The only byproduct is water.

Automakers generally agree fuel cells are the ultimate solution to reduce dependency on petroleum and eliminate air pollution.

Honda is among the automakers leading the way in fuel-cell technology. It introduced the first fuel-cell vehicle certified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency last fall.

In December, Honda delivered to the city of Los Angeles the first of five FCX fuel-cell cars to become part of the city's vehicle fleet.

The city operates its own refueling station that uses hydrogen made from natural gas. Honda's experimental refueling station at its California research and development center produces hydrogen through electrolysis, converting city water to hydrogen using solar power.

The car itself looks fairly normal — except for the "Honda FCX fuel cell power" written on its sides. Its exterior design is based on the EV-Plus electric vehicle that Honda used to sell.

Its chassis has been heavily modified exclusively for the FCX. Instead of an engine under the hood, there are radiators, air intakes and an air pump.

Underneath the floor is the fuel-cell system. Two hydrogen tanks sit behind the system, between the rear wheels.

An ultracapacitor, a device that stores the energy normally lost during braking as batteries do in other advanced vehicles, is situated above the tanks.

Honda is currently the only automaker using an ultracapacitor, and it did so for maximum fuel efficiency and responsiveness in acceleration.

Yozo Kami, senior chief engineer of Honda Research & Development, said the FCX's energy efficiency is 45 percent, whereas a gasoline engine is, at best 18-percent efficient, and a hybrid vehicle — one that uses a gasoline engine and an electric motor — is about 29 percent.

Kami said the ultracapacitor also provides more instantaneous power than a fuel-cell vehicle that uses

MICHELLE KREBS
She's Freewheeling

power directly from the fuel cell or through a battery-hybrid system. All other automakers use both of these systems.

While I can't speak to the fuel efficiency from my seven-mile test-drive in Dearborn, Mich., I can say the responsiveness was extremely good.

The FCX was quick from dead stops, and had plenty of power to keep up with city traffic. Its pep was particularly surprising in light of the fact that this small, four-passenger vehicle is extremely heavy.

It weighs about 3,700 pounds — roughly the same as the EV-Plus, but much more than the Honda Civic's 2,400 pounds. The FCX delivers 80 horsepower and 201 pounds-foot of torque.

That compares with 115 horsepower and 110 pounds-foot of torque from a Civic.

The FCX's top speed, which I didn't check out, is 93 miles per hour. Its range between "fill ups" is between 170 and 220 miles, Honda says.

Inside, the FCX's instrument panel is a dead give-away that this is not your father's Oldsmobile. Various digital gauges tell how full the tank is and the minimum and maximum driving distances. An energy management display shows the output coming from the fuel-cell or from the ultracapacitor.

To drive the FCX, one turns the key and waits for the instrument cluster to show "ready" — a matter of seconds.

Shift into gear, step on the gas and all you hear is the whir of a fan providing oxygen to the fuel cell, and the tires on the pavement.

While the FCX is normal to drive, the fuel-cell technology has a long way to go, admitted Kami. Cost is the biggest obstacle. The FCX is about 100 times more expensive than a regular car.

In other words, Honda has to bring the cost to a hundredth of its current level before it is commercially viable. Weight and size are also issues. The fuel cell system weighs about three times as much as an internal combustion engine and requires about three times the space.

More research has to be done to make fuel cells operate in cold temperatures and improve their driving range.

And then there's the nagging question about how to produce and distribute hydrogen fuel.

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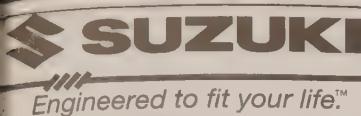
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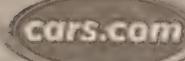
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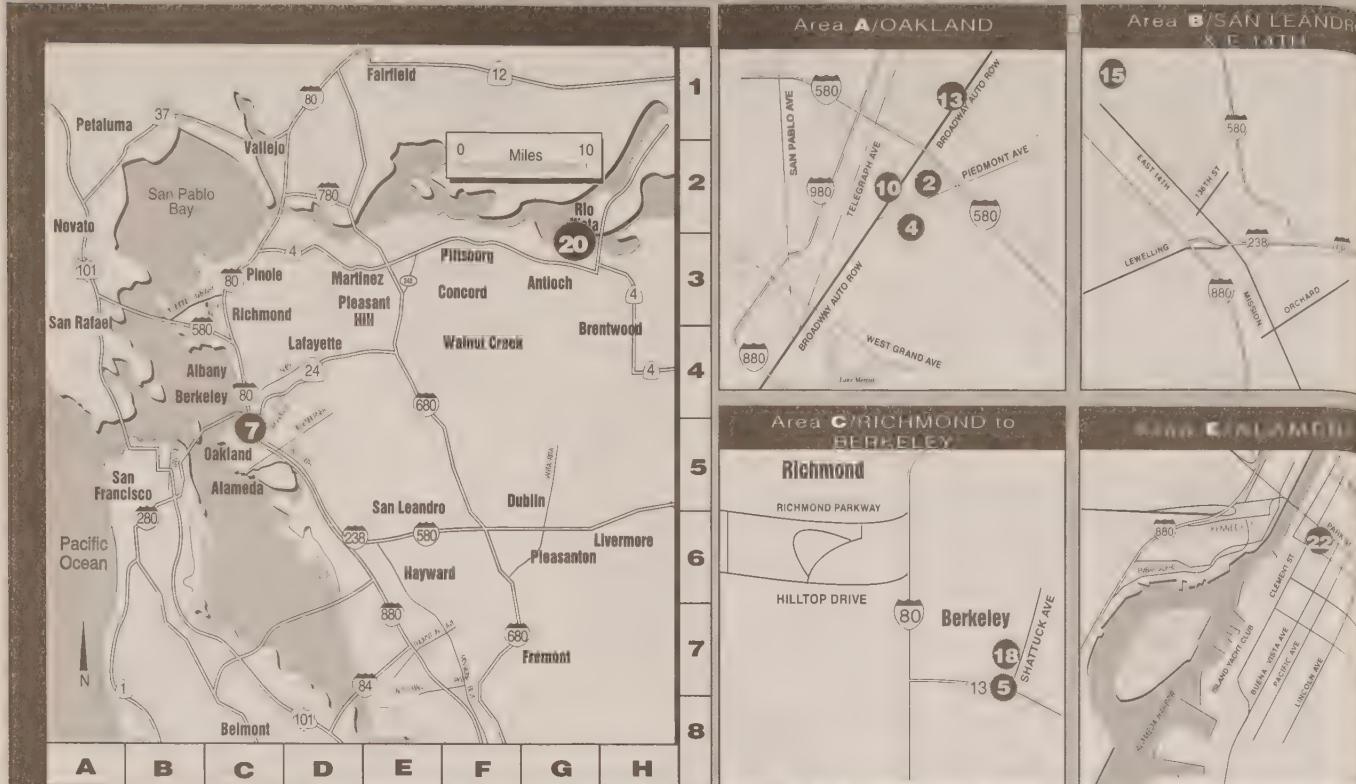
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MARLED PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE

Crust:
1 1/4 cups graham cracker crumbs
1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter, melted

2 tablespoons granulated sugar
1 cup (6 ounces) semi-sweet chocolate mini morsels, divided

Filling:
3 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, softened
1 cup granulated sugar
1/4 cup packed brown sugar
1 can (15 ounces) Libby's 100% Pure Pumpkin

1 large eggs
1/2 cup Nestlé Carnation Evaporated Milk

2 tablespoons cornstarch
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/8 teaspoon ground nutmeg

Cust:
Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease a springform pan.
Combine graham cracker crumbs, butter and granulated

sugar in medium bowl. Press onto bottom of prepared pan. Sprinkle with 1/2 cup morsels.

Filling:
Microwave remaining morsels in medium, uncovered microwaveable bowl on HIGH power 30 seconds; stir. Microwave at additional 10- to 15-second intervals, stirring until smooth; cool to room temperature.

Beat cream cheese, granulated sugar and brown sugar until smooth; beat in pumpkin. Beat in eggs, evaporated milk, cornstarch, cinnamon and nutmeg. Remove 3/4 cup pumpkin mixture; stir into melted chocolate. Pour remaining pumpkin mixture on crust. Spoon chocolate-pumpkin mixture over top; swirl with knife.

Bake 60 to 65 minutes or until edge is set but center still moves slightly. Cool in pan on wire rack. Refrigerate several hours or overnight. Remove side of spring-form pan.

Makes 16 servings.
PUMPKIN ROLL

Cake:
Powdered sugar

3/4 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon baking soda

1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
1/4 teaspoon salt

3 large eggs
1 cup granulated sugar

2/3 cup Libby's 100% Pure Pumpkin
1 cup chopped walnuts (optional)

Filling:
1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
1 cup sifted powdered sugar
6 tablespoons butter, softened
1 teaspoon vanilla extract Powdered sugar

Preheat oven to 375°F. Grease a 15 x 10-inch jelly-roll pan; line with wax paper. Grease and flour paper. Sprinkle towel with powdered sugar; set aside.

Combine flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, cloves and salt in small bowl. Beat eggs and sugar in large bowl until thick. Beat in pumpkin. Stir in flour mixture. Spread evenly into prepared pan. Sprinkle with nuts.

Bake 13 to 15 minutes or until top of cake springs back when touched. Immediately loosen and turn cake onto towel. Carefully peel off paper. Roll up cake and towel together, starting with narrow end. Cool on wire rack.

Beat cream cheese, powdered sugar, butter and vanilla in small bowl until smooth. Carefully unroll cake; remove towel. Spread cream cheese mixture over cake. Re-roll cake. Wrap in plastic wrap; refrigerate at least one hour. Sprinkle with powdered sugar before serving.

Makes 10 servings.

PUMPKIN PECAN PIE SQUARES

1 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 cup old-fashioned or instant oats

1/2 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 cup butter, softened
3/4 cup granulated sugar

1 can (15 ounces) Libby's 100% Pure Pumpkin

1 can (12 fluid ounces) Nestlé Carnation Evaporated Milk
2 large eggs
2-1/4 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice

1/2 cup chopped pecans
1/4 cup packed brown sugar

Preheat oven to 350°F. Combine flour, oats, brown sugar and butter in small bowl. Beat at low speed 1 to 2 minutes or until crumbly. Press on bottom of ungreased 13 x 9-inch baking pan.

Bake 15 minutes.

Combine granulated sugar, pumpkin, evaporated milk, eggs and pumpkin pie spice in large bowl. Beat at medium speed 1 to 2 minutes; pour over crust.

See PUMPKIN, Page 2



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Baby names: Jacob and Emily remain popular, but trend is toward unique

BY STEPHANIE DUNNEWIND
THE SEATTLE TIMES

At 2020 graduation ceremonies, expect to hear a lot of Jacobs and Emilys in the roll call, and be on the lookout for Ethans too.

The two remain firmly planted as the most popular baby names in 2002, according to Social Security card applications.

Madison, Hannah, Emma and Alexis round out the top five for girls. Michael, Joshua, Matthew and Ethan complete the boys list. (The Social Security Administration ranks each spelling of a name individually, which is why names such as Caitlin — also spelled Kaitlyn, Katelynn, etc. — don't show up higher.)

In Washington, Ethan bumped Jacob off its 8-year throne as the most popular baby name for boys in the state last year. The state is a trendsetter in its embrace of Ethan, which rocketed from No. 17 in 2001 to No. 5 last year in national popularity. That's up from No. 67 in 1991.

"You're on top of the trends there," said Linda Rosenkrantz, co-author of the new book "Cool Names for Babies." "Ethan is No. 1 in Canada, and Canada and Britain tend to be a few steps ahead."

She suspects parents took to Ethan as a biblical name to replace the popular Joshua. And so it goes, as new parents search for "something different, but not too different," said Cleveland Evans, a professor of psychology at Bel-

vue University in Nebraska. "Most people are very concerned about finding a name that other kids in kindergarten won't have."

Even the most popular names aren't as common as in the past.

"For the last 15 years, the percentage of people getting the most popular names has gone way down," said Evans, who studies naming trends and is the author of "Unusual and Most Popular Baby Names." "For the first time in history, the top 50 names account for less than 50 percent of the boys being born each year. And for girls, it's less than 40 percent."

Blame our individualist streak: "As life becomes more homogeneous, as every town has all the same chain restaurants, we find ourselves compelled to set ourselves and our children apart," explained Evans.

Experts cite several reasons for the trend toward unique names:

- A more informal society means people use surnames less frequently, making first names more important in terms of identity.

- The Internet makes it easier for people to find out the most common names, and also seek out unusual ones.

- Less familial pressure to name babies for relatives and ancestors.

- Weird and unusual spellings in popular culture, from band names to company monikers.

Still, Evans thinks most people misuse the term "unique" as they

really don't want a made-up, one-of-a-kind name. "What they really want is a name everybody likes and everybody has heard of but no one has."

A particular sound or syllable will become popular and then a slightly different version will work its way up as a replacement, Evans said. For example, Jennifer was hugely popular in the 1970s and early '80s, followed by Jessica in the late 1980s and early '90s. Currently, that can be seen in Emma (No. 4, up from No. 125 in 1991) as an alternative to Emily (No. 1 since 1996). Now Rosenkrantz sees an upswing in O names with Olivia and Owen (or O-ending names such as Milo).

Creative names are more common and accepted in the African-American community, Evans said. Thus, the trend in black names with idiosyncratic punctuation, such as apostrophes, middle capital letters and hyphens.

But a name associated with a particular group for a few generations can eventually spread to wide popularity. For example, before World War II, Michael was a predominantly Irish name and not embraced by non-Catholics, Evans said. Since 1950, though, it's been one of the most enduring, with years at No. 1 and never dropping out of the top 10.

Now Rosenkrantz expects formerly "ethnic" names such as Isabella, Sophia, Javier, Benicio, Joaquin and Leonardo to be picked up by parents without Spanish or Italian heritage.

Sports stars, celebrities and characters from books and movies can cause a spike in name popularity. Though many parents don't specifically name their children after a certain star, they might hear a name and think, "Hmm, I like that."

Thus, Trinity (from "The Matrix") boomed in 1999-2000; Madison as a girl's name probably dates back to "Splash." "But people aren't going to name their baby after Jennifer Lopez, because that's not different enough," Evans said.

rather than go with newer options.

Indeed, "Cool Names for Babies" dubs one category "bobo" — names preferred by the "Bohemian Bohemians," folks who "have good taste but disdain convention." Popular in upscale nursery schools, names such as Abigail and Aidan are "classic as well as cool, embodying style along with history."

Ageism against women means certain girl names can't come back for three or four generations without being considered "grandma names," Rosenkrantz noted. "A name really has to disappear off the radar, then it might come back. Most parents naming their daughters Grace have no associations because they've never known a Grace."

Only two girl names have held spots in the top 50 names for 100 years: Elizabeth and Katherine/Catherine. But nicknames changed, so a Katherine was probably called Kit, then Kathy and now Katie. "They're the same name on the birth certificate, but that's not what they're all called in real life," Evans said.

While girls are still more likely to have creative names than boys, that's becoming less true, with more Bradens and Jadens. "You never saw those before," Rosenkrantz said. Two celebrity names she predicts to become hot are Heath and Ashton. For girls, she sees a push toward old-fashioned names such as Julia, as well as glamour-girl names like Ava and Audrey.

Kids no longer face

scorn for unusual names, some names — such as

Rocket and Racer (with

Kids" director Robert Re

named his three boys) —

be so cool it puts too much

on kids, Rosenkrantz

So while kids may

complain about odd spellings, "kids are getting beaten

cause of their name," Rose

said. "It's just a different

climate."

Some up-and-coming

names from different

areas

Boys:

Mather (tied for No. 1 Hawaii)

Hunter (No. 3 in West Virginia)

Logan (No. 3 in North

Isaiah (No. 3 in New

Caleb (No. 4, in Okla

Girls:

Isabella (No. 4 in Florida)

Grace (No. 2 in Minnesota)

Jasmine (No. 5 in Hawa

Alondra (No. 2 in Puerto

Genesis (No. 4 in Puerto

Rio)

Tips

Pamela Redmond Sa

Linda Rosenkrantz, auth

"Cool Names for Babies" (S

tin's Griffin, \$9.95) offer

for picking a "cool" name

■ "Cool" usually means

not just nontraditional

have to go pretty far beyond

mainstream to find names truly cool."

■ Go with a foreign

category that is "vast and

uniformly cool." One way

to search the Web for overseas

sites. Or even name like

words like Lilia ("lilac" in

■ Invent a new name

doesn't sound too weird

changing the first letter of

national name, such as A

Jaden or Tyler to Zyle.

letters or syllables to create

names, such as Pra

Cilla or Malcolm to Colm

Resources

■ The Social Security

Administration's Popular Baby

page (www.ssa.gov/OAC/

names) ranks the top

5 by state and allows you

type in a name and see

popularity has changed over

years. A key caveat is that

spellings of similar names

not combined.

■ Babynames.com (www.

names.com) offers a database

of 6,500 names and means

well as lists of names by

categories, such as c

names and those appear

works of Shakespeare.

■ BabyCenter (www.

center.com/babyname) lets

you search baby names by

origin, number of syllables

starting and ending letter,

and customized name

send to family and friends



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There's more to vinyl deck systems than meets the eye so do your homework

METRO CREATIVE SERVICES

The rise in the popularity of vinyl deck systems means a rise in the number of brands available on the market today. Not all vinyl decks are alike, so you need to understand what you are buying and the differences between the various vinyl deck systems. A good deck system will offer features that can meet the various demands that will place on it. Features such as ultraviolet protection, color retention, impact retention and the use of co-extrusion all affect the quality and impact the durability of the product.

Ultraviolet (UV) protection is essential in vinyl products that are intended for exterior applications. "The additives work like a window pane and protect the vinyl from breaking down, becoming brittle and discolored," noted Deron Manwaring of Royal Crown Limited, manufacturer of vinyl decking systems. Manwaring explained the industry standard for the UV additive is 10 parts per hundred. The best

vinyl decks on the market are produced with 12 parts per hundred of titanium dioxide, the best additive available.

Several deck systems are offered in different colors. Make sure they are manufactured with good quality color additives to ensure that the colors do not fade. Vinyl deck manufacturers that use the very best proven color blends certify the steadfastness of the colors.

In the vinyl industry, the co-extrusion manufacturing process is becoming more common because it reduces material expense. This process is very successful and can result in a high quality product if used properly. All too often though, it is used to hide a sub-standard, recycled base material that the manufacturer can purchase at a reduced price. The outer layer is comprised of a quality material that effectively hides the sub-standard base material.

To avoid sub-standard material, Royal Crown Limited's Manwaring suggests you look for a vinyl deck

system that is produced entirely of 100 percent virgin vinyl that does not include inferior or incompatible ingredients that affect the quality of the deck.

Other qualities that identify a well-built vinyl deck system include a single-plank design that prevents vinyl-against-vinyl squeaking; safety features such as a slip-resistant surface, outstanding weight-load capacities, self-extinguishing nontoxic vinyl, excellent impact resistance; and a connection system that does not expose fasteners or lift or rust.

A reputable vinyl deck manufacturer will submit its product to aging, strength, durability and safety testing by independent labs and testing specialists that are submitted to the Building Officials Code Administrators (BOCA). Ask manufacturers' representatives for testing information.

For more information on what to look for in a quality deck system, contact Royal Crown Limited at 800-488-5245, or visit the company's Web site at www.royalcrownltd.com.



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VINYL DECK SYSTEMS continue to grow popular among homeowners. However, not all vinyl decks are alike and it's important to understand how to find a quality system for your home.



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Often used in bathrooms and kitchens, today's modern, energy-efficient skylights, roof windows and sun tunnels are increasingly found anywhere in the home where more natural light is needed.

The No. 1 option in "dream bathrooms," according to industry research, bathroom skylights provide privacy while they bathe the area with natural light, provide ventilation and help prevent condensation.

Convenient electric venting skylights, particularly useful in high condensation areas such as bathrooms, are available with remote control, blinds, shades, awnings, insect screening and automatic rain sensors. In your kitchen, they can release hot air and odors while

admitting more light for brighter days and for more pleasant cooking and dining.

A great way to add dramatic appeal to a room, skylights also address important health considerations. Research shows that one in five Americans suffers Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), with symptoms including depression and fatigue due to lack of sufficient daylight. Skylights help by admitting abundant daylight — especially helpful for older adults — while visually expanding rooms.

Also consider roof windows, which meet emergency exit requirements and can transform under-utilized areas into attractive and functional living space by turning an attic into a bonus room, playroom, guest room or home office. And unlike basements, finished at-

tics typically appraise at 100 percent of the value of other living space.

For simple, quick installation in areas where skylights may not be needed or won't fit, Velux Sun Tunnels can provide natural light in hallways, smaller bathrooms, pantries, walk-in closets or other confined areas. Unlike other tubular systems, they feature flexible tunnels that easily fit around obstructions between roof and ceiling.

For free booklets on natural light and skylight selection, call 800-283-2831 or visit www.veluxusa.com. For government information on skylight energy efficiency, visit www.energystar.gov, and for independent agency information visit www.nrcf.org or www.efficientwindows.org.

For such a long time we used to be a family of four

BY RICK SHEFCIK

KNIGHT PAPER NEWSPAPERS

When we arrived home from driving our daughter to college for her senior year, our friends asked how we were doing.

"Not so great," I answered.

As much as our 18-year-old adult needs to get out of the house and on with the next part of life, I was not looking forward for such a long time, we had a nice, happy family of four, our house with just the right amount of noise, clutter, confusion and conversation.

Things are out of kilter. I love the Indian word is koyagati, life out of balance. It's obviously without noticing anything's gone — hours our daughter at home might have otherwise spent in her room, on the computer, out with friends or sleeping — but there are many little reminders that she's not here anymore.

Begin with the kitchen table. It's four, but across from me now, instead of my daughter's face, I see condiments and serving dishes on the evening meal. There's now only room for the salad bowl and the vegetable plate.

There's also plenty of room in the family room to watch TV. We have an armchair and a three-seater couch facing the screen, which made for tight quarters whenever we could find something — "The Simpsons" or "Wall Street Week" — we all wanted to watch together. There's no fighting for space anymore.

There's no fighting of any kind, for that matter. The battle of stupid insults and pointless goat-getting between our kids has been suspended until Christmas vacation. It's a cease-fire I don't mind, except that the house hasn't been this quiet since the builders finished it.

I can get on the family computer more often now; or at least, I should be able to, but our son seems to have absorbed most of our daughter's time into his endless quest to vanquish all cybermonsters and space monsters.

The piano is never played anymore, though in truth our daughter limited her recitals in the last few years to any time everyone else was out of the house.

There's an extra seat in the van on which to put stuff when the three of us drive somewhere; and when I sit in the passenger seat, I no longer have to crank the seat up to a sitting angle from the recline position, where our daughter always preferred it.

It's easier to order pizza now; we don't need to get two anymore, and we don't have to be meticulous about dividing the toppings into separate areas. Those of us left all like the same things.

It's much easier to decide on a restaurant because the three of us can quickly agree on a choice. The four of us used to go around and around, nullifying each other's choices until, often, we ended up staying home.

The phone doesn't ring as often; there's less traffic through the door; my CDs don't end up in another room, on somebody else's CD player; the dog gets less attention and fewer walks; nobody strongly disagrees with my political opinions; I have to empty the dishwasher more often; and nobody bakes cookies.

I can get used to this. I just don't particularly want to.

Rick Shefcik writes for the Saint Paul Pioneer Press. Write to him at the Saint Paul Pioneer Press, 345 Cedar St., St. Paul MN 55101. Send e-mail to him at: rshfcik@pioneerpress.com.

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Whether you're in your home, in the yard or in the air at 35,000 feet, it's getting harder and harder to get a breath of fresh air.

That's why homeowners, many of them longtime allergy sufferers, are rethinking their internal environments and investing in remedies that will help them and their families breathe easier. It's no easy task, since practically every item in the home has the potential to harbor allergens, particularly "soft" furnishings like sofas, chairs, mattresses and bed linens. But experts agree that there are options, ranging from installing sophisticated air purifiers to using high-tech vacuums to something as basic as purchasing hypoallergenic mattress and pillow covers.

One product that can impact air quality is the floor. It's no wonder. Next to the walls, the floor is the largest continuous surface in the home and — considering its location — the largest collector of indoor airborne matter. Therefore, your flooring choice should be the foundation of any long-term plan to improve the air in your home.

That's why more and more homeowners are selecting a natural remedy — hardwood floors. They are installing hardwood floors throughout new and existing homes, replacing wall-to-wall car-

peting with hardwood, even in bedrooms, according to Bill Clossin, vice president of marketing at Harris Tarkett, a manufacturer of hardwood flooring.

"There are lots of reasons why homeowners are choosing hardwood floors over other options," says Clossin. "But there's no doubt that the search for indoor air quality is at the top of the list."

Whether in planks, strips or parquets, hardwood flooring is naturally hypoallergenic. It has no fibers, grout lines or embossing that can trap dust, dirt and other allergens. Regular vacuuming helps eliminate the daily collection of particles that might settle on the floor, says Clossin. The tough, durable no-wax finishes, like Harris Tarkett's Alumide enhanced urethane wearlayer, make daily maintenance easy.

New factory finishes also eliminate the need for the attendant mess and fumes associated with the on-site sanding and finishing of an unfinished floor. "Depending upon the situation, the airborne sawdust and fumes from the finishing products can be aggravating to an allergy sufferer," says Clossin. The sanding and finishing process can require residents to leave the house for several days, he adds.

Installation options also enhance the health advantages of

hardwood flooring, particularly the options provided by prefinished engineered floors. This new generation of hardwood flooring is inherently dimensionally stable. This means it does not expand and contract with seasonal changes in temperature and humidity and, in turn, can be installed using various options.

Depending upon the situation and the type of engineered product, these floors can be glued, stapled or nailed down, eliminating the need for full-spread adhesive. For instance, one type, called Longstrip, can be "floated," or permanently installed, over most existing subfloors without nails or adhesives.

"Longstrip might be the most healthy option of all," says Clossin. "The floating method eliminates the need to rip up an old floor, which in and of itself can release a variety of allergens into the air."

There's also a healthy financial reason to choose a hardwood floor over other options, he adds. "When the life-cycle costs are considered in comparison to the initial installation cost, hardwood floors represent one of the best flooring values around, and they enhance resale appeal."

For more information on Harris Tarkett's prefinished hardwood flooring products, call 800-842-7816 or visit www.harristarkett.com.



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COLOR CAN ADD AMBIENCE TO any room. Incorporating the latest color trend — brown — Thibaut's "Persian Weave" from the "Repertoire" collection creates a comfortable elegance



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PREFINISHED HARDWOOD FLOORS, like Harris Tarkett's Grand Vista II in Pine Natural with the Alumide enhanced urethane finish, can help improve indoor air quality. They do not trap dust and other allergens, making them ideal for family rooms and bedrooms.

'Color' your home with the latest trend

METRO CREATIVE SERVICES

Color is a simple way to add a jolt of personality to any space. It is also a wonderful way to create a feeling or mood, whether you seek a sense of sunny optimism with yellow or quiet serenity with blue.

Whether you're redecorating your entire home or simply want to change the way a room "feels," here is a look at the latest color trend information from the design experts at Thibaut that will help you add special appeal to any area in your home.

Lori Reagle, art director at Thibaut, says three colors are making a major statement. The first is blue. No matter what shade or tone, blue is big. In the company's latest collection, "Repertoire," patterns like "Wolverhampton" feature collies and retrievers overlapping a midnight blue background. "Herald," a metallic fleur de lis pattern, features a slate blue background. "These darker hues create a sense of calm and comfort in larger, open rooms," Reagle says. "On the other hand, lighter tones, like the sky blue found in the 'Geraniums' design or the sea glass blue of the 'Jardiniere'

pattern from Thibaut's "Piccadilly" collection, lend a sense of openness to smaller rooms.

Reagle also sees popularity in orange and red in spicy color hues. The muted nutmeg-colored "Fortress" design in "Repertoire," as well as the paprika-colored "Indienne Paisley" design, consist of a rule of thumb, the Thibaut studio focuses on colors to complement and enhance any new home furnishings.

Reagle also stresses the importance of sticking with classic groups.

"While some trends do not fuchsia as the new most people don't have such a color in their homes," Reagle says. "When experimenting with colors you believe for you and your home."

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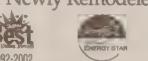
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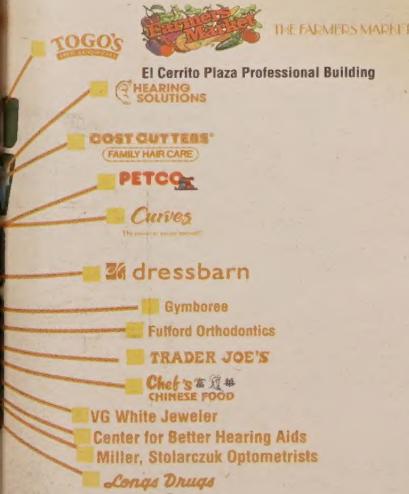
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